'Pursue valuation report of CNMI properties.' PAGE 3
MTEC sets 'Green Spaces, Memorable Places' as annual theme. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

$1

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FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2023
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ALL SOULS DAY KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
The Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa was full of people yesterday afternoon who came out to visit their deceased loved ones in commemoration of All Souls Day.

CFO says of CUC's $93M total receivables, gov't owes $73.8M

» **Overall, CUC is spending within the allocated budget for the fiscal year**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s total receivables stand at $93 million and, of that amount, a staggering $73.8 million is owed by the CNMI government, according to acting CUC chief financial officer Rodolfo Urbano.

See CFO on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Commonwealth Utilities Corp. acting chief financial officer Rodolfo Urbano conducts a presentation of his report during the CUC board meeting last week.

DPS still on the lookout for Sanchez

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety is still on the lookout for a man facing multiple charges, including unlawful transportation of firearms.

According to DPS spokesperson Fred Sato, DPS is still on the hunt for Kelvin

See DPS on Page 4

NMI presentation one of highlights of National Humanities Conference

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marjorie Daria, left, and Dr. Bobby Cruz facilitate the "Indigenous Values Driving DEI: The Powerful Lesson of Inafa' Maolek and Tipiyeew" session at the 2023 National Humanities Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council represented the CNMI at this year's National Humanities Conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana, from Oct. 25 to 29.

The conference gathered

See NMI on Page 4

Tudela chosen as CPA executive director

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors has finally agreed to name Leo Tudela, the former U.S. Postal Service director for Asia

See TUDELA on Page 4

INSIDE

BUSINESS
As the island completely emerges from COVID-19, James Aguirre Rabauliman sees an opportunity in producing custom-made sports jerseys.
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NATION
President Joe Biden said he thought there should be a humanitarian "pause" in the Israel-Hamas war.
PAGE 15

WORLD
Secretary of State Antony Blinken will visit Israel and Jordan this week as Israel's war in Gaza and international criticism of it intensify.
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Local

Apatang withdraws nomination of Johnson

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, in his capacity as acting governor, withdrew Wednesday the nomination of businessman Roland Johnson to serve on the board of trustees of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute.

Apatang

Apatang informed Senate President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) that since the Senate did not have ample time to act on Johnson's nomination, he is withdrawing the nomination at this time and that he will resubmit Johnson's nomination at a later date.

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios re-submitted last Aug. 7 Johnson's nomination to serve a four-year term on the NMTI board of trustees, representing Saipan and Northern Islands.

Last July 18, Sen. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan), who chairs the Senate Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, canceled the scheduled confirmation hearing for Johnson, Valeria M. Atalig, and Antonio B. Cabrera, due to a lack of quorum.

The Senate had already confirmed the appointment of Atalig and Cabrera to serve on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors and Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors, respectively.

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FEMA helpline revises hours of operation

In light of decreased demand from Typhoon Mawar survivors, the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 is now open 19 hours daily, with revised hours from 9pm (ChST) to 4pm (ChST) the following day.

Guam residents who registered with FEMA for disaster assistance after Typhoon Mawar are encouraged to stay in contact with FEMA to resolve issues, provide updates

See FEMA on Page 4

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'Pursue valuation report of CNMI properties'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senate President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) hopes the Palacios-Apatang administration will put more effort into having a valuation report on Commonwealth properties, so that people would know exactly what the CNMI's market value is.

Norita

DeLeon Guerrero underscored the need to have such a valuation report during a Senate special session on Monday, during which they discussed and subsequently passed with some amendments a bill that authorizes the CNMI government to negotiate a revolving line of credit with the Marianas Public Land Trust in the amount of $15 million.

DeLeon Guerrero said it is important to exactly know how to promote the Commonwealth if they were to float additional bonds to keep the government afloat.

The president cited Article 10: Taxation and Public Finance Section 4: Public Debt Limitation where it states that "public indebtedness other than bonds or other obligations of the government payable solely from the revenues derived from a public improvement or undertaking may not be authorized in excess of 10% of the aggregate assessed valuation of the real property within the Commonwealth."

DeLeon Guerrero then asked Finance Secretary Tracy B. Norita if the proposed revolving line of credit is in excess of the allowable 10% of the aggregate assessed valuation of the real property within the Commonwealth.

Norita said she wishes she could answer that question since they have yet to have a published study of the 10% valuation of CNMI properties.

That report was actually part of a Technical Assistant Program award from the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, Norita said, but that project has stalled due to the cost of the proposals that were submitted. She said the grant funds were insufficient.

DeLeon Guerrero

"So, at this time, I don't have any updated information as to the 10%," Norita said.

She added that the line of credit is meant to be a short term and not a long-term debt instrument.

Because the line of credit is tied to awarded grant funds to ensure or secure the payments, it would still be beneficial to move forward with the $97 million federal projects that they have in front of them, she said.

DeLeon Guerrero recalled that, if she is not mistaken, the prior Finance secretary had cited a census report that placed the CNMI value at maybe a little bit over or under $2 billion.

DeLeon Guerrero said that, without a current valuation of the Commonwealth, considering that they are currently debating the issue of a $15-million revolving line of credit, and the execution of this particular note would be today, not having a current valuation report means they are unsure if the $15 million will be in excess of the allowable 10%.

She said the only valuation they have is whatever they had many years ago.

Norita said she does not have with her right now any information as to when the valuation study was done for the Commonwealth. "I know the efforts to have an updated valuation report has stalled so I don't have that information right now," Norita said.

DeLeon Guerrero noted that there was a request for proposal that was published with respect to pursuing the valuation of the Commonwealth properties to keep it current.

"And, as you stated today, the money was not enough and therefore this project has not gone anywhere," said DeLeon Guerrero, adding that the administration should push forward with this project.

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Public hearing on Tinian for solid waste management plan

The CNMI Office of Planning and Development, on behalf of the Inter-Island Solid Waste Management Task Force, invites you to a public hearing on Nov. 15, 2023, from 5pm to 6pm at the Tinian Public Library to share your thoughts, voice your concerns, and learn more about the CNMI Comprehensive Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.

To view the latest draft of the CISWMP, give your thoughts on the plan, and more, please visit https://opd.gov.mp/ciswmp.html.

The CNMI CISWMP charts a sustainable path forward for the CNMI's solid waste, spanning the development, operations, and maintenance of compliant landfilling, recycling, and composting facilities for Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands. It includes supporting activities such as education and outreach, conservation, and more.

"Together, we can preserve our Commonwealth's beauty and precious resources for future generations through effective, sustainable solid waste management. Get involved and be part of the CISWMP development process," states an OPD news release.

If you have any questions about this upcoming outreach event or the CISWMP or wish to be added to a mailing list to receive solid waste management planning updates, please call OPD at (670) 233-2673 or send an email to joshua.santos@opd.gov.mp.

This public hearing will be a hybrid event that will be facilitated in-person and online. If you wish to attend virtually, send an email to joshua.santos@opd.gov.mp prior to the public hearing date to receive a meeting link. ***(OPD)***

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TUDELA

From page 1

Pacific, as CPA's new executive director.

All seven CPA board members unanimously agreed to give Tudela the executive director position, which has been technically vacant since last month but has, in fact, been vacant for many months now.

According to CPA chair Jose "Joe" Ayuyu, since previous nominees have rejected the position offer, the board had to discuss the position anew and agreed to choose Tudela who was one of the five applicants for the position.

"There has been a number of applicants and, as a matter of fact, if I recall, there were others who rejected the offer for personal reasons. I don't know the background but today we settled with Tudela. We all agreed to offer the position to Tudela," he said.

Ayuyu said he is confident in Tudela's management skills and is hopeful that his years of experience in management will translate well in his new role at CPA.

"He's got solid background. I would hope that his experience translates well… as he has a lot of experience in management and in organization. The key to success is the people in that organization and whether or not you can steer them in the right direction," he said.

Ayuyu added that he looks forward to Tudela joining CPA and getting to work on addressing infrastructure issues the CNMI ports currently face.

"Now that we've settled the issue of executive director by choosing to offer the position to Leo Tudela, he can come in and start working on the issues that our CNMI ports are facing. A lot of things he needs to address are the issues community members and visitors face when traveling through our ports. Those things need to be addressed right away," he said.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

RED CROSS DONATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Officials of the Joeten Daidai Foundation donate to the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter at the Joeten store in Susupe. In a photo release yesterday, the NMI Chapter said it is grateful for the enduring and generous donations from the Joeten Daidai Foundation. "Since the inception of the Chapter in 1978, the Joeten family has provided financial support as well as critically needed volunteer service. The late Roman Sablan Palacios was one of the founding NMI Red Cross Chapter board members and helped pave the way for generations of humanitarian service" said John Hirsh, director of the NMI Chapter.

NMI

From page 1

humanities leaders from state and federal levels and leading scholars and historians from throughout the United States and its territories. The delegation was led by the council's chair Dr. Bobby Cruz, executive director Leo Pangelinan, and board members Marjorie Daria and Leni Leon, with NMHC staff Naomi Tudela and Leeani Villagomez. They were supported by the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award Humanities recipient Siñot Donald Mendiola and Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director Erlinda Naputi and librarian Beth Demapan.

The NMHC brought greater visibility as the sole Pacific Island featured session at the national event, presenting "Indigenous Values Driving DEI: The Powerful Lesson of Inafa' Maolek and Tipiyeew."

The presentation explored the intersection of indigenous identity and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), calling for the promotion of indigenous values to sustain authentic DEI efforts and overcome unconscious and implicit bias.

Facilitated by Cruz and Daria, the session was among the most well attended session of the conference, with many attendees boasting that it was a conference highlight. Among the attendees was Shelly C. Lowe, chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities, appointed by President Biden.

Cruz shared, "It was powerful to hear that our work inspired so many scholars, historians, and leaders and gave them insights about the powerful lessons our Marianas culture has to offer the world. It was an important project for us because it allowed us to reflect on our own values and present a framework for DEI from a Pacific Island lens. Often, we look to the West for these examples. This time, we looked inward and brought our beliefs to our brothers and sisters across the nation. It was a proud moment of voice and visibility for our indigenous people of the Marianas."

Cruz also shared that this is just the start of more representation. "Our people of the Marianas have more lessons to share with the world. These lessons are powerful truths that the world needs to hear. So, our participation again is the continuation of our effort to elevate CNMI representation in spaces at that level."

Another historic moment during the National Humanities Conference was the launch of the first convening of the Pacific Islander Humanities Network (PIHN). In September 2023, the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded supplemental grant funds to Amerika Samoa Humanities Council, Hawai'i Council for the Humanities, Humanities Guåhan, and Northern Marianas Humanities Council to establish and support a regional network for Pacific Island councils to engage in collaborative activities focused on knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, elevating Pacific Island voices in the nation, and work on shared humanities interests and issues. The PIHN is scheduled to meet biannually over the next three years at annual National Humanities Conference sites and within each of the four Pacific Island council jurisdictions. The first convening agenda focused on building community among participants, exploring shared heritage, and introducing concepts for establishing a permanent governance structure for the network. The next convening is scheduled during the 2024 Festival of Pacific Arts & Culture in Honolulu, HI.

"I am truly grateful for NEH Chair Shelly Lowe's commitment to elevating our Pacific Island voices, interests, and needs. The NEH Pacific Islands Cultural Initiative requires regional engagement and I'm excited for the opportunities to leverage the work and best practices of cultural leaders and practitioners from across the U.S. Pacific jurisdictions and Pacific Islander diasporas within the nation," said Pangelinan. ***(PR)***

DPS

From page 1

Cabrera Sanchez, who faces charges that include unlawful transportation of firearms, removal of the serial number from a firearm, no firearm permit, illegal possession of narcotics, and others.

"As of this time, he has not been arrested," said Sato.

Sanchez was previously detained at the Department of Corrections after DPS officers did a traffic stop on him last Oct. 24 and allegedly found methamphetamine and ammunition in his car.

According to the previous DPS report, police received a disturbance report at the Pak Pak beach park in San Antonio at about 11:33pm on Oct. 24. Police said a witness identified a white Toyota Corolla fleeing the beach at a high rate of speed heading north.

An off-duty police officer later saw the vehicle along Beach Road in Susupe heading north at high speed. Shortly after, officers traced the vehicle to a residence in San Jose village.

As the officers were doing their investigation, they observed that the driver of the white Corolla, identified as Sanchez, was under the influence of alcohol. Police arrested him and charged him with driving under the influence of alcohol.

Sanchez was later found in possession of a glass pipe that contained a white residue. A field test was conducted on the residue, which yielded a presumptive positive result for methamphetamine.

The white Toyota Corolla was impounded and officers discovered plastic baggies with white crystal-like substance and glass pipes with white residue inside the car. Both items allegedly tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine.

Additionally, a black handgun with no serial number and ammunitions were found inside the car.

CFO

From page 1

In his presentation during the CUC board meeting last week, Urbano said the government's account receivables have been steadily rising.

He disclosed that of the $93 million receivables, $58 million is owed by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

As of Oct. 24, 2023, Urbano said, CHCC has been regularly paying its promised $525,000 per month, in compliance with its agreement with CUC, which began last May 12.

CHCC was short, however, by $4,000 on their last payment on Oct. 23, he added.

The May 12 agreement between CUC and CHCC requires CHCC to pay CUC $525,000 per month regardless if their consumed utilities are higher or lower than that amount, Urbano explained. He said the average CHCC utilities is $500,000.

Urbano said CUC's sales and billing have been relatively consistent. He said CUC's average monthly revenue is $9 million, while its monthly expenses are averaging at $8.5 million.

Since they're making sure that every expenditure is budgeted and accounted for, Urbano said that payables are current and vendors are paid on time.

Urbano said that actual revenues exceed budget revenues because of an increase in the Fuel Adjustment Charge. However, he said, operating expenses, which also include fuel cost, is also above the budget and this only offset by the increase in the FAC.

"So overall, CUC spending is within the allocated budget for the fiscal year," Urbano added.

As for CUC's cash status, he disclosed that, as of Sept. 30, 2023, CUC has $57 million in the bank in restricted and unrestricted reserve.

With respect to the purchase of a new power engine, which is currently being installed at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base, $1 million is reserved for the last payment, he said.

Urbano said $300,000 is reserved for Power Plant 3 at the airport and $521,000 for the contract for the diesel engine No. 2 foundation.

Urbano said they also reserved for one year $600,000 for Settlement Fund; $687,000 for payment to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Coast Guard for oil spill; $3.3 million for stipulated order 2 funds as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and $1.1 million for a technical manager for oil as ordered by the federal court.

For Mobil alone, Urbano said they're paying $5 million to $6 million a month for fuel.

FEMA

From page 2

on their applications or submit new information.

Applicants changing addresses, phone numbers or banking information should notify FEMA immediately.

Missing or erroneous information could result in delays in receiving assistance.

Callers to the FEMA Helpline should refer to the nine-digit number they were issued at registration. This number is on all correspondence applicants receive from FEMA and is a key identifier in tracking assistance requests.

Survivors can also call the helpline to:

■ Update insurance information.

■ Receive information on the home inspection process.

■ Add or remove the name of a person designated to speak on your behalf.

■ Find out if FEMA needs more information about your claim.

■ Update FEMA on your housing situation.

■ Learn how to appeal an eligibility determination.

■ Get answers to other questions about your applications.

In addition to calling the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362, applicants may also update their information the following ways:

■ Online at disasterassistance.gov.

■ Download the FEMA mobile app.

Visit the following links for the latest information:

■ Governor's Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/govlouguam

■ GHS/OCD Website: https://ghs.guam.gov/

■ GHS/OCD Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/ ***(PR)***

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Wednesday Nov. 08
Rota
Family Food Forest & Commercial Agroforestry Workshop - NMC Campus, Rota 8:00AM - 4:30PM
Thursday Nov. 09
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Monday Nov. 13
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Change venue for finals of 'Marianas Got Talent: Battle of the Voices'

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The grand finale of the Marianas Got Talent: Battle of the Voices on Nov. 26, 2023, will be seeing a change of venue, from the Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center to the Saipan World Resort.

In its presentation at the Rotary Club of Saipan on Tuesday at the Crowne Plaza in Garapan, representatives of the Music Performing Arts Competition Corp. said they were prompted to change the venue as the Multi-Purpose Center wasn't available on their chosen date.

MPACC chair Daniel Quitugua said that, although they have been using the Multi-Purpose Center for the event "unfortunately we got word that it will not be available on the 25th so…the standby option was to go to World Resort," he said.

MPACC treasurer Arlene Reyes promises that the finals will be a "grand show."

"There's so much rumbling on the island. There's so much excitement that is going on with respect to Mariana's Got Talent," she said

It will not just be the contestants that will take the stage. Reyes said there will also be performances by the judges.

With 14 contestants left in the competition, three individuals will win cash prizes: $1,500 for first place; $1,300, second place; and $1,100 for third place, along with a chance to compete in national competitions like America's *Got Talent, The Voice,* and *American Idol*.

"Our goal is to consistently have a competition here to find someone who can represent us, the Marianas—and we know that we have those talents. …The three contestants [who] will win will represent the CNMI in either AGT, American Idol, or The Voice, depending on their age and the age contestants can join. We have different contestants in different age ranges, so depending on who wins will determine which network they will be going to perform."

Since the funds raised from the competition will go toward the winning contestants' tickets and lodgings when competing at the national level, Reyes said that ticket prices will be a bit higher for the grand finale at $20 per ticket.

Quitugua said that MPACC has been getting a lot of positive response from not only Saipan residents, but even from off island, and they are hoping to expand the competition.

"We're thinking of taking Marianas Got Talent down to Rota and Tinian as well. We have planned to move it down to Guam, and we have been receiving requests from Micronesia and Palau to bring it over there. Our major problem right now is funding. Funding is very critical to us because you have to engage people to come and join the competition," Quitugua said.

He said they are also looking for sponsors. "We are fully booked as far as events are concerned. We just need a little help with funding for all of these events. We plan to be more self-reliant rather than be dependent on the business community but we just need a little bit of a headstart to get us moving," he added.

Both Quitugua and Reyes said the competition will be an annual event for Saipan from August to November. "Every month you will be hearing, you will be seeing, and you will be watching activities with respect to music here on our small island of Saipan," said Quitugua.

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2019 TOYOTA CHR 5DR WGN (Color: White)
25,961 Miles
Condition: Good
MINIMUM BID: $22,994.00

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned counsel, Attorney Robert T. Torres or his designee, for and on behalf of the Bank of Guam, will sell at auction the abovementioned vehicle to the highest bidder on **November 24, at 10:00 a.m. at the Bank of Guam Rota Branch.**

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. **Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties conduting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the chattel mortgage (vehicle) listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such chattel mortgage (vehicle) is accepted;
   b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before the chattel mortgage (vehicle) is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever there; and
   c) to reject any and all bids.

2. **Minimum Bid.** The minimum bid for the sale of the abovementioned vehicle is **twenty two thousand nine hundred ninety four and 00/100 $22,994.00.** The vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder "as is, where is" without any warranties. **All bids shall be in writing and constitute a formal offer from each bidder. The vehicle bid form may be picked up at the Bank of Guam Rota Branch. Bids may be submitted in advance for said vehicle.** Bids may be submitted in person (at the auction), via email, or in writing by telephone to Bank of Guam Rota Branch's Manager, Kayla Mendiola, Phone: 670-483-5027, Fax: 670-532-3609, Email: kaylabeann.mendiola@bankofguam.com by 4:00pm Chamorro Standard Time on November 23, 2023. For inspections of the vehicle, contact Bank of Guam Rota's Branch's Manager, Kayla Mendiola, at the above contact information. All bids less than $22,994.00 will be rejected. Any person who registers his/her bid shall provide a vaild identification card (vaild CNMI Driver's License or Passport). A written bid shall include the bidder's sigature, with his/her telephone number, mailing address, and any other contact information. The winning bidder shall be the person whom the vehicle is confirmed to, if the bid is accepted. **Please contact the Bank of Guam Rota Branch for a bid form.**

3. **Payment.** The entire purchase price must be paid within three (3) days after the auction sale. **Personal checks /company checks are not accepted.** All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. The Bank of Guam Rota Branch shall release the chattel mortgage to the winning bidder with a valid driver's license. Failure to make payment will result in the forfeiture of the accepted bid. The next highest bidder (minimum $22,994.00) may be awarded.

4. **Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam Rota Branch reserve the right to change any of the term conducted and enforcement of sale by the announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

DATED this 25th day of October, 2023.

/s/_____
Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

INVITATION FOR BID

PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-004-24
SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 24, 2023: 2:00 P.M.

"SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ONE UNIT BRAND NEW SUV FOR CPA SAIPAN SEAPORT OFFICE"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING OCTOBER 23, 2023. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) UNIT BRAND NEW SUV FOR CPA SAIPAN SEAPORT OFFICE **(IFB-004-24)**" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 24, 2023. **A 10% BID GUARANTY IN THE FORM OF A BID BOND OR CASHIER'S CHECK SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID DOCUMENTS.** BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: _____

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 | Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
Tel. No. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
As of November 03, 2023

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Joaquin M. Manglona	10/18/2023 SPlm-2024-002	Drydock - Tenshou II	Lowerbase, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Certified Complete* 10/19/2023 Approved* 10/20/2023
2. Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan	10/18/2023 TSm-2024-001	Outdoor Fitness Court	San Jose, Tinian	Shoreline	Approved* 10/23/2023
3. Pacific Subsea Saipan, Inc.	10/25/2023 SPlm-2024-003	Drydock - Coral Queen	Lowerbase, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 10/27/2023
4. Windsurfing Saipan, Inc. dba Sea Wind Marine Sports Club	10/27/2023 SLR-2023-003-A1	Commercial Hobie Catamaran Activities	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 10/31/2023
5. Department of Land & Natural Resources - Division of Fish & Wildlife (DLNR-DFW)	10/30/2023 SLRm-2024-004	Replacement/Installation of Artificial Shearwater Burrows Project	Managaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 10/30/2023
4. Mobil Oil Marianas Inc.	10/30/2023 RLRm-2023-007	MBM & Chain Inspection	Sasanhaya Bay, Rota	Lagoon & Reef	Application Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Kuen-Hee Han, Petitioner : FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-0385
VS
Je Seong Oh, Respondent, : SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PO box 502134, Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 31st day of October, 2023.

/s/_____
Clerk of Court

MTEC sets 'Green Spaces, Memorable Places' as annual theme

MTEC

Marianas Tourism Education Council board member Catherine Perry engages students of San Vicente Elementary school with tourism topics in early 2023 as part of the non-profit organization's annual activities.

Setting the direction for another school year of outreach, the Marianas Tourism Education Council on Friday selected the theme "Green Spaces, Memorable Places" to bookmark all its activities in the year ahead.

MTEC will kick off its annual activities on Nov. 15, 2023, meeting with school MYWAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Club Advisors at Pacific Islands Club Saipan. The meeting will focus on ways the two organizations can collaborate to involve students with the islands' number one industry—tourism.

"We're super excited to initiate MTEC's annual calendar of events with our MYWAVE advisors, who are one of our essential partners," said MTEC chairwoman Vicky Benavente. "And for those schools who do not yet have a MYWAVE Club and who are interested to form one this year, we encourage you to sign up before Nov. 15."

Schools sending club representatives (limit two advisers) to the meeting or wanting more information on forming a MYWAVE Club may contact MVA Community Projects coordinator Jack Aranda at jaranda@mymarianas.com or 1.670.664.3200.

The theme "Green Spaces, Memorable Places" coincides with the World Tourism Day 2023 theme, "Green Investments" and highlights the growing trend of eco-tourism and how the Marianas community can create and enhance green spaces for a unique visitor experience and a more sustainable industry.

Other upcoming programs for the year include educational presentations at schools, the annual MTEC Tourism Summit scheduled for January 2024, stipends for MYWAVE club advisers for qualified expenses, and the MTEC Scholarship program for graduating seniors.

MTEC is a non-profit organization whose mission is three-fold: to foster community understanding and support of the visitor industry; to educate the public, especially school students, about the value, social benefits, and economic contributions made to the community by the visitor industry; and to instill, improve, and promote the "Hafa Ada -Tirow" hospitality spirit throughout the island community.

In addition to Benavente, MTEC board members include Martin Duenas (MVA), Galvin Guerrero (Northern Marianas College), Larry Lee, Naomi Nishimura (CNMI Public School System), Gordon Marciano (PDI), Catherine Perry (Integrity Communications), Glenn Policare (Kanoa Resort), Yunzi Zhang (Northern Marianas College), and Larissa Larson. ***(MTEC)***

JUNJI TAKASAGO

Senbon Yashi on Rota, one of many attractions highlighting the importance of "green spaces" on the islands for both residents and visitors, is now under government quarantine protection due to the invasive rhino beetle.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NAME OF EMPLOYER: AFH, Inc. dba Natural Nail Spa

THE POSITION: Beautician

NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 1

JOB DESCRIPTION: Provide beauty services such as: Shampooing, cutting, coloring, and styling hair, massaging, and treating scalp; Apply makeup, dress wigs; Perform hair removal; and Provide nail and skin care services.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION: Must be at least a High School graduate.
EXPERIENCE: Must have at least 24 months of relevant work experience as a Beautician.
OTHER SPECIAL SKILLS OR REQUIREMENTS: Must know details of hair care and treatment, make-up, nail and skin care services, and other aspects of beauty enhancement.

JOB SITE: Chalan Pale Arnold Road (Middle Road), Gualo Rai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HOW TO APPLY: If interested, please submit or mail application and comprehensive resume, with supporting credentials to:

EDEN G. ORDAS
General Manager
AFH, INC. DBA NATURAL NAIL SPA

Office Address: Chalan Pale Arnold Road (Middle Road), Gualo Rai Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Mailing Address: PMB 955, P.O. Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Email Address: edenfguillo@yajoo.com
Telephone Number: (670) 234-6245

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BID

AMENDED
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-001-24
SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2023: 2:00 P.M.

"SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FOUR (4) BRAND NEW VEHICLES TO THE FRANCISCO MANGLONA BORJA TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

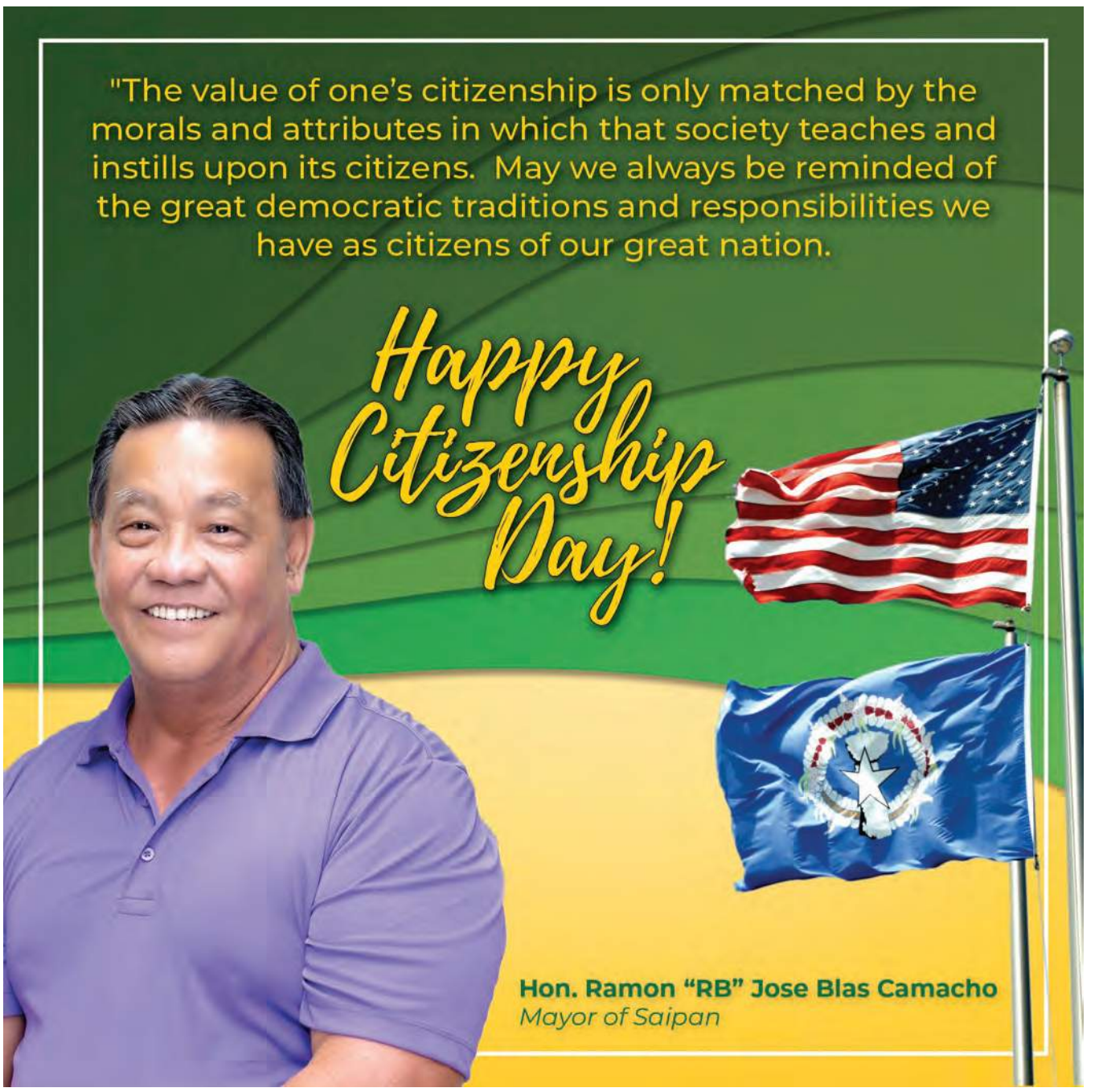
THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING OCTOBER 09, 2023 AT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, CREDIT CARD, OR U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER. ALL APPLICANTS SHALL PAY THE $100.00 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BID.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF FOUR (04) BRAND NEW VEHICLES TO THE FRANCISCO MANGLONA BORJA TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT **(IFB-001-24)**" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 14, 2023. **A 10% BID BOND OR CASHEIR'S CHECK PAYABLE TO CPA SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID DOCUMENTS.** BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

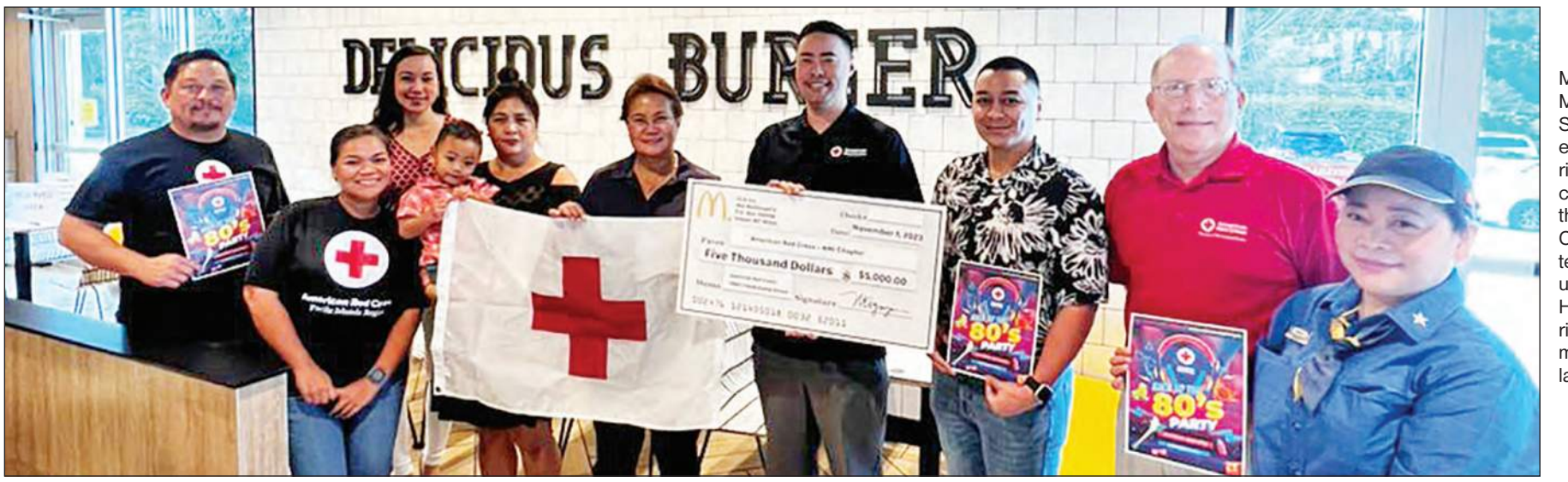
THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2023
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR


"The value of one's citizenship is only matched by the morals and attributes in which that society teaches and instills upon its citizens. May we always be reminded of the great democratic traditions and responsibilities we have as citizens of our great nation.
Happy Citizenship Day!
Hon. Ramon "RB" Jose Blas Camacho
Mayor of Saipan

McDonald's donates $5K for Red Cross 1980's fundraising dinner



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marcia E. Ayuyu, McDonald's of Saipan owner/operator, fifth from right, presents a check for $5,000 to the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, led by its executive director, John Hirsh, second from right, at the store's main branch in Chalan Laulau.

In honor of the 45th anniversary of the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, McDonald's has donated $5,000 to the American Red Cross-NMI as a "Pac-Man" sponsor for the upcoming 1980's-themed fundraising dinner.

The dinner will be held on Nov. 18, 2023, at the Kensington Hotel Saipan. Doors open at 5:30pm.

The American Red Cross-NMI has been a beacon of hope of support for the Northern Marianas Islands community, providing emergency assistance, disaster relief, and critical services to those in need. Post-Typhoon Mawar on Rota and Guam had hundreds of volunteers called into action and were able to provide help to those impacted by the storm.

McDonald's recognizes the vital role the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter plays in helping individuals and families during times of crisis, and is proud to contribute to their mission.

McDonald's representative expressed their enthusiasm for supporting the American Red Cross NMI. "We believe in the power of communities coming together to make a difference. The American Red Cross-NMI [Chapter] has a long history of aiding those in need, and we are thrilled to be part of their ongoing mission," said Marcia E. Ayuyu, McDonald's of Saipan owner/operator.

"The Red Cross deeply appreciates the generosity of McDonald's of Saipan for their recent $5,000 donation in support of our lifesaving programs here in the CNMI," said Juan Diego Tenorio, disaster program manager. "McDonald's supports our Blue Sky programs such as disaster preparedness and education, as well providing meals during catastrophic typhoon events. We are grateful for their partnership and participation in our programs."

McDonald's of Guam & Saipan, locally owned by Joe and Marcia Ayuyu and their son, Joe E. Ayuyu Jr., is the leading food service restaurant chain in the Mariana Islands. ***(PR)***

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Introducing Pacific Express. Ride the digital wave with this account today and do digital banking your way. Access your account information wherever you want, deposit checks in a snap, and pay bills without making a splash at the branch! With a Visa® debit card, online and mobile banking, and the region's largest ATM network, you can bank how you move.
Open your account* today at
bankofguam.com
Bank of Guam
Member FDIC
*Only offered in Guam and the CNMI. Terms and conditions apply.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BID

AMENDED

PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-002-24

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2023: 2:00 P.M.

"SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) UNIT BRAND NEW HEAVY DUTY TRUCK FOR SAIPAN SEAPORT POLICE"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING OCTOBER 09, 2023 AT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, CREDIT CARD, OR U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER. ALL APPLICANTS SHALL PAY THE $100.00 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BID.

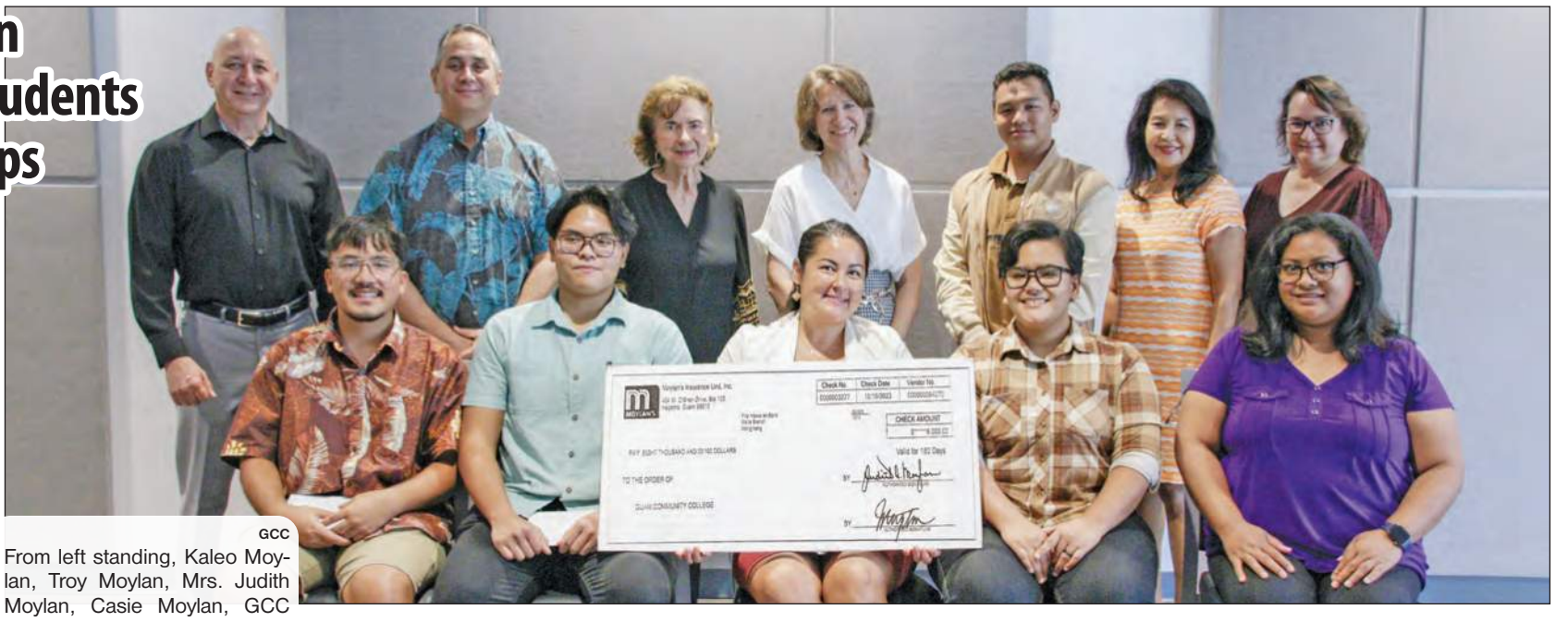
BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ONE (1) UNIT BRAND NEW HEAVY DUTY TRUCK FOR SAIPAN SEAPORT POLICE **(IFB-002-24)**" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 14, 2023. **A 10% BID BOND/GUARANTY OR CASHIER'S CHECK PAYABLE TO CPA SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID DOCUMENTS.** BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2023
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KSM Foundation awards 5 GCC students with scholarships



GCC

From left standing, Kaleo Moylan, Troy Moylan, Mrs. Judith Moylan, Casie Moylan, GCC Board of Trustees student representative Kenyl Magwili, GCC Foundation Board of Governors chair Lorraine S. Okada, and GCC president Dr. Mary A. Y. Okada. From left sitting, Thomas Torres II, Charles Olaguir, Cheryl Guyton-Mafnas, Jenae Therese Pereda, and Angela Camacho.

Five Guam Community College students are grateful to the Kurt S. Moylan Foundation for the scholarships they received on Monday, October 30, 2023. The total in scholarship awards for Fall 2023 semester is $7,000. The KSM Foundation Scholarships is and will continue to be for Guam's future leaders.

Applicants submitted a two-page essay on their personal and career goals and showed how the scholarship will help achieve them. The KSM Foundation scholarships were open to full-time GCC students with a minimum 3.0 grade point average working towards their Associate of Science (AS) in Civil Engineering, Accounting, Office Technology, Practical Nursing and Supervision and Management.

The awardees include Angela Camacho for her degree in Office Technology ($1,000); Charles Kevin Olaguir for his work towards an AS Accounting ($2,000); Thomas Torres II, AS Civil Engineering Technology ($2,000); Cheryl Guyton-Mafnas for her studies in AS Accounting ($1,000); and Jenae Therese Pereda for her work towards an AS Construction Technology ($1,000).

About KSM Foundation

The KSM Foundation is a tribute to Kurt S. Moylan, Guam's first elected lieutenant governor. As a public official he helped shape Guam's identity and improved the island for the better. As an innovative businessman he was known for his tireless work ethic and vision. His companies which include Moylan's Insurance Underwriters, Inc., NetCare Life and Health Insurance Company, FirstNet Insurance Company, Moy Communications, Inc., Equitable Adjusting and Service Co., and Colonial Investment Company, Inc. have employed hundreds of our people and have served thousands of our island residents. As a family man, he instilled in his children the same drive and character his parents raised him with, so they can continue his legacy, not just in terms of the business but also in their love for the community. Kurt S. Moylan was a real titan and true leader. ***(GCC)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BID

AMENDED

PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-003-24

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2023: 2:00 P.M.

"SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF THREE (3) BRAND NEW UTILITY VEHICLES TO THE FRANCISCO MANGLONA BORJA TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING OCTOBER 09, 2023 AT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, CREDIT CARD, OR U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER. ALL APPLICANTS SHALL PAY THE $100.00 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BID.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF THREE (03) BRAND NEW UTILITY VEHICLES TO THE FRANCISCO MANGLONA BORJA TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT **(IFB-003-24)**" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR **BEFORE 2:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 14, 2023. A 10% BID BOND/GUARANTY OR CASHIER'S CHECK PAYABLE TO CPA SHALL BE SUBMITTED** WITH THE BID DOCUMENTS. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

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WENDI PRATER DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2023
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PACIFIC EXPRESS PLUS
Keep banking.
Keep moving.
Don't stop.
Introducing Pacific Express Plus. With this signature account, you can spend while you earn with a competitive rate. Explore the ease and convenience of our Visa® debit card and digital banking services and bank how you move.
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Bank of Guam
Member FDIC
*Only offered in Guam and the CNMI. Terms and conditions apply.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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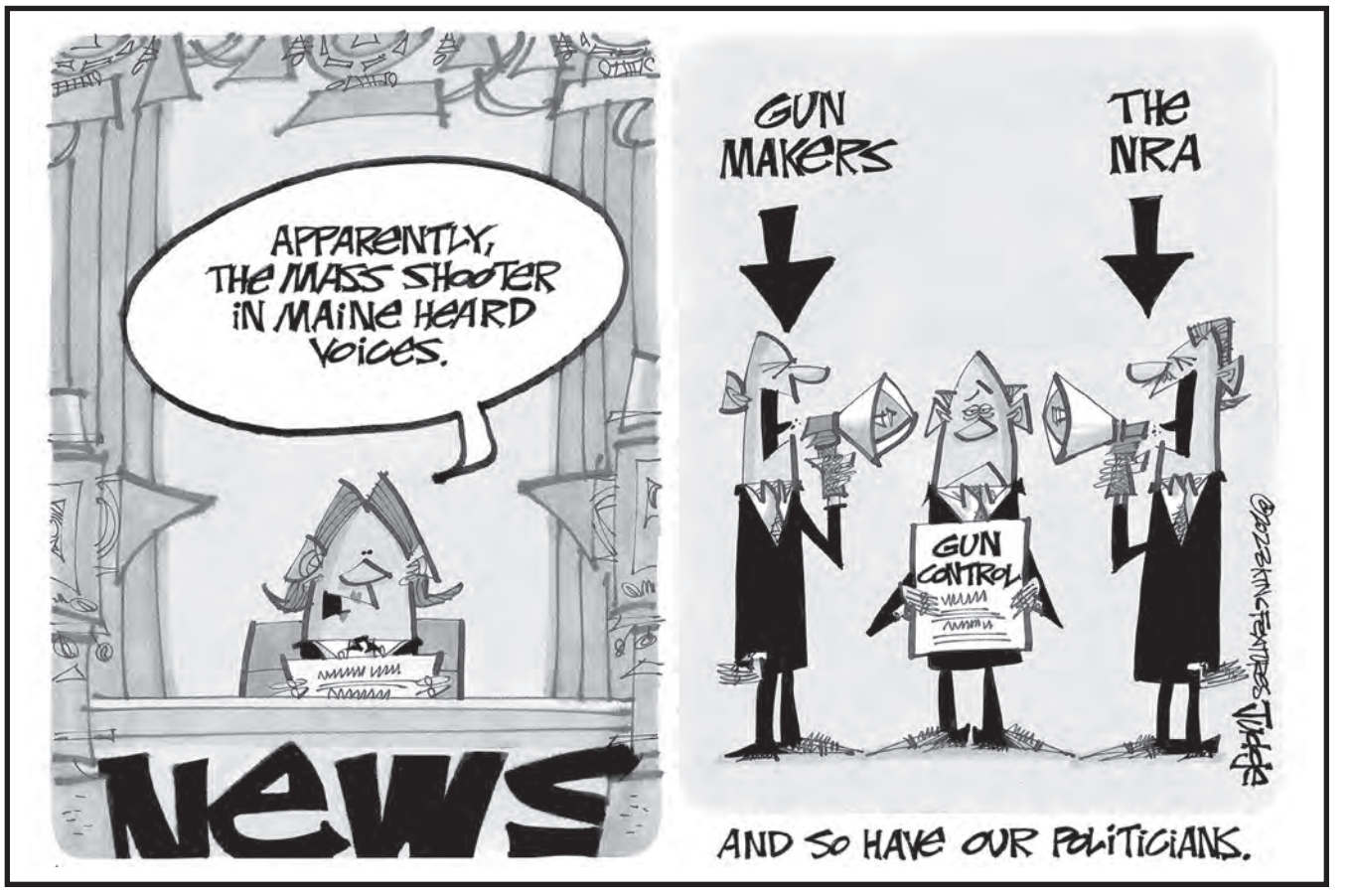
Mark Rabago EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association



EDITORIAL

Can Maine shooting and public support for red flag laws finally spur action?

Last week's horrific shooting in Maine that left 18 dead and 13 others wounded has already raised the questions that have become familiar after mass casualty events. What motivated the suspect, 40-year-old Robert Card, to go on his rampage in a Lewiston bowling alley and bar? Why was the U.S. Army reservist, who had been hospitalized for a serious mental illness as recently as this past summer (an episode that reportedly included hearing voices in his head), not under closer supervision? And how is it that he had unfettered access to the powerful semi-automatic assault rifle that was used in his attack?

The last question has a relatively easy yet troubling answer. Maine does not have a "red flag," or "extreme risk protection order," law that allows loved ones or law enforcement officials to petition a court to prevent someone at great risk of doing harm to themselves or others from having access to firearms. Card owned multiple guns. Here was someone who may have been divorced from reality, whose behavioral problems were not even hidden from those who knew him, who had a military-style assault weapon—often the choice for mass shootings in this country—and authorities in Maine were powerless to do much about it.

That needs to change.

Maryland has a red flag law. At least 20 other states do, too. But Maine does not. It has a watered-down "yellow flag" version. Families across this country should be able to take action when they know a son or father, a wife or daughter is at risk of hurting themselves or others. Not just that they will launch an attack against family or neighbors or complete strangers, but that they could potentially take their own lives, which is by far the most likely scenario.

This should not be a gun owners versus gun "grabbers" debate. We are past that. Even Fox News, hardly a liberal bastion, released an opinion poll earlier this year showing that Americans back tougher gun laws, from the 87% who favor criminal background checks for gun purchases to the 77% who think there should be a 30-day waiting period for gun purchases. And what did respondents think of red flag laws where police might remove guns from the home of someone judged a danger to himself or others? That was supported by 80% of the respondents. A majority, 61%, also would ban all assault weapons.

We'd support a national assault weapons ban, too, but we recognize that even with these attacks, there are hard-core Second Amendment advocates with too much sway in the Republican Party to expect action in Congress. Even the U.S. Supreme Court is uncertain on that front. But a red flag law? That's something else entirely. Not only is there overwhelming public support, but the argument against it is shockingly weak, claiming that such laws amount to government overreach and lack due process. But given that states have involuntary civil commitment laws that allow them to place a person in a mental hospital against his or her will if judged a threat,

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Where's the United Nations in all this? Oh, right, nowhere

By ANDREAS KLUTH
Bloomberg Opinion

Andreas Kluth is a Bloomberg Opinion *columnist covering US diplomacy, national security and geopolitics. Previously, he was editor-in-chief of* Handelsblatt Global *and a writer for the* Economist.

"I am ashamed of the U.N." That's how Czech Defense Minister Jana Cernochova put it the other day, referring to the United Nations. "In my opinion, the Czech Republic has nothing to expect in an organization that supports terrorists and does not respect the basic right to self-defense. Let's get out."

Wow. Nobody is expecting the Czechs to quit the U.N., but Cernochova's outrage says it all. One way or another, pretty much every one of its 193 member nations is fed up and increasingly convinced that the U.N. is fast making itself irrelevant. It's meant to be the world's primary organ for multilateral cooperation and collective peacekeeping, and its charter prohibits the use or threat of force. But at this rate, the U.N. could soon meet the fate of its precursor, the League of Nations, which showed itself to be useless in the 1930s and was finally dissolved just after World War II.

Cernochova's indignation concerns a U.N. resolution introduced by Jordan and passed by the General Assembly with a vote of 121 in favor, 14 against and 44 abstentions. It demands "an immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce" in the conflict between Israel and Hamas now raging in the Gaza Strip.

But the assembly had first rejected an amendment sponsored by Canada. It would have added that the U.N. also "unequivocally rejects and condemns the terrorist attacks by Hamas" and demands the immediate release of all hostages. As passed, the resolution therefore doesn't mention Hamas, the hostages or Israel's right to self-defense.

Well, you may say, that's just the General Assembly. The real action at the U.N. is in the Security Council, the body of five permanent and 10 rotating members that can dispatch troops to make or keep peace in trouble spots. But that forum has become the diplomatic version of a mud-wrestling fight between the Western democracies among the five veto-wielding powers—the U.S., U.K. and France—and the autocratic axis of Russia and China.

Last week the U.S. proposed a council resolution that condemned Hamas' terrorism and reaffirmed the right of all states to self-defense. It demanded the release of the hostages and also called for "humanitarian pauses" to protect civilians. Nope, said Russia and China. They were joined by one of the rotating members, the United Arab Emirates.

Then it was Russia's turn to get rejected. Its resolution called for an immediate ceasefire and condemned all violence against civilians. That's rich coming from a nation that's been bombing, abducting, maiming and killing Ukrainian civilians for more than 600 days. The other problem was that Russia's version failed also to recognize Israel's right to self-defense and even called for rescinding the evacuation orders to Gazans, though those are meant to protect civilians. So the U.S. and U.K. said no.

Other countries, especially those in the so-called Global South, are trying to stay out of this geopolitical brawl and throwing up their hands in exasperation. Gabon, a rotating member of the council, voted for both the American and Russian texts, just to get something done. "We regret that antagonism within this council" makes any progress impossible, as Gabon's representative Lily Stella Ngyema-Ndong phrased it diplomatically.

Some degree of strife in a global forum shouldn't be surprising. As divided and polarized as we are in our domestic politics, we can hardly expect harmony when showing up at international institutions that ipso facto subsume a "clash of civilizations."

And yet idealist internationalism rests on the aspiration of rising above our differences. It has a long and venerable tradition, embodied most famously in Woodrow Wilson, the U.S. president who reluctantly entered World War I but then decided to "make the world safe for democracy." The result, as conceived by him, was the League of Nations, a club of countries that promised, in theory, to provide collective security for one another, settling disputes by arbitration and defending victims of aggression.

From the start, however, the league was hobbled when the U.S. Senate, in a snub to Wilson, failed to ratify the covenant. The U.S. not only stayed out of the league but turned isolationist instead. Without American leadership, the league therefore lacked the "realist" element of power that Wilson's "idealist" vision required.

That became clear in the 1930s, in a succession of crises the league was meant to prevent or redress but couldn't. Starting in 1931, the Japanese seized Manchuria. In 1935, Italy's Duce, Benito Mussolini, took Abyssinia, now called Ethiopia. With the league showing its impotence in each successive crisis, Italy, Japan and Nazi Germany ignored it altogether and set the world on fire.

The U.N., chartered in San Francisco just after World War II, was therefore supposed to be a new and improved institution. And this time around, the U.S., the clear hegemon of the postwar order, would stick around as foster parent.

The Cold War made that hard, of course. But the idea of collective security, which ran from Wilsonianism to the U.N., stood a chance. In 1950 the North Koreans overran the southern peninsula. On the Security Council, China was still represented by China's Nationalists (who were by that time on Tai-

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EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

We cannot forget or forgive Hamas' atrocities

By BOB DOLD
Chicago Tribune

Bob Dold is a former congressman who represented Illinois' 10th Congressional District from 2011 to 2013 and again from 2015 to 2017

How soon we forget. While the vast majority of Americans alive today were born years after the liberation of Nazi death camps, the horrors of the Holocaust are a hellish reality that none of us can choose to ignore. And they're a fact that no one, especially our elected leaders, have an excuse to forget.

Nevertheless, in the wake of the deadliest attack on Jews since Adolf Hitler's gas chambers, some elected officials—from Springfield to Washington—have responded as if the Nazis' attempt at Jewish genocide may have somehow been forgotten. And as if the atrocities carried out by Hamas should somehow be forgiven.

No matter your gender or your race, your age, your politics or your religion, one common thread that unites nearly all of us is the recognition that while war is hell on both its combatants and its unintended victims, warfare that's intentionally targeted on civilians is not warfare at all. It is genocide. And that is what Hamas, as a terrorist puppet of Iran, attempted to ignite on Oct. 7 in Israel. That must never be forgotten, and it cannot be forgiven.

Yet—just hours after Hamas engaged in a targeted slaughter of everyone from infants to the elderly while raping and kidnapping countless young women—16 Illinois elected officials issued statements decrying the violence while simultaneously placing the blame for it squarely on the Jewish victims themselves, echoing the words of those who decry not the existence of violence but the existence of Israel itself.

To be crystal clear, Hamas is a terrorist organization, and Hamas does not truly represent the Palestinian people as a whole. They are an Iranian-funded terror organization that has endlessly engaged in indiscriminate killing, maiming and kidnapping of Israeli Jews. Their goal is simple and one both they and their puppet masters in Iran publicly admit. Their stated goal is to wipe Israel and its Jewish people from the map.

On a planet consisting of nearly 8 billion people, approximately 2 billion are Muslims, and nearly 2.4 billion are Christians. In contrast, there are approximately only 14 million Jews in the entire world. Jews account for just 0.2% of the world's population. And the sole Jewish state, the state of Israel is about the size of the state of New Jersey. According to Hamas, Iran and their backers, however, 14 million Jews are apparently 14 million too many. According to Hamas, any homeland at all, no matter how small, is one homeland too many.

It's beyond debate that Israel has every right to defend itself. Hamas has not only taken countless Israeli lives and hostages, but they've also put the Palestinian people—the same people they claim to fight for—squarely between themselves and the Israeli Defense Forces.

Those are not the actions of "freedom fighters." Those are actions of terrorists fueled by the mission of genocide. And as Americans whose history includes liberating the death camps in World War II, our actions must be driven by a resolve to support Israel and defend the Jewish people from yet another attempt to wipe them from this planet. It's not just the right thing to do. It's the only thing worthy of a nation like ours to do.

This is not a partisan issue. America must stand with Israel. And I hope every leader, in Illinois and beyond, who has blamed Israel or excused Hamas and Iran for their assault on the Jewish people recognizes that we can't forget the atrocities the Jewish people faced in the past. And must never allow to be repeated in the future.

My beloved Gaza of crowded markets and vibrant cafes is gone, demolished and a place of grief

By HANI ALMADHOUN
Los Angeles Times

Hani Almadhoun is director of philanthropy at UNRWA USA, an independent nonprofit organization supporting the humanitarian work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

A mere two months ago, we had the rare privilege of visiting our family in the Gaza Strip, a place I've always romanticized despite the more than 16-year-long blockade, preceded by 55 years of Israeli military occupation.

Even though we were displaced to Gaza as refugees from Ashkelon, it still represents home to me. As a Palestinian-American who holds a Gaza ID, I can't enter Gaza through Israel and I can't exit without Israel's permission.

This summer, not sure if it would be my last visit for a long time, I relished the simple pleasures Gaza had to offer. Vibrant cafes buzzed all day. Evenings were filled with family and laughter by the Mediterranean beach.

We took memorable road trips with young nieces and nephews. My young daughters indulged in horseback riding lessons, music classes and traditional Palestinian dabke dances at summer camp. We savored seafood, fresh bread and Instagram-worthy cafe dishes with a Gazan twist. We found deep spirituality in historic mosques, surrounded by humble, grateful people.

Amid the bustling markets and notorious traffic, the faces of family members, who can't visit us in the U.S., made our visit special, even though life in Gaza is subject to a siege imposed by Israel and condemned as illegal by the United Nations and the majority of human rights organizations.

These were my Gaza memories before everything changed on Oct. 7, when an attack on Israel resulted in unimaginable grief for Gazans who are caught in the crossfire.

Nearly half of Gaza's 2.2 million population, more than a million of whom are children, are displaced once more. Blocks upon blocks of homes are being reduced to rubble. An already scarce water supply has dried up. Endless queues for essentials stretch for hours. Overcrowded shelters mean an hour's wait for a shared, dirty toilet.

My sisters are taking refuge north of Gaza City in a hospital and a school operated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, but no place in Gaza is safe.

In a recent phone call with my mom in Gaza, a deafening explosion shook my phone speaker. The noise over the phone was so alarming that my wife, Roa, rushed downstairs fearing I'd been injured.

My mother and the rest of my family members eventually ventured out into the street in northern Gaza, not knowing what to expect. This time, they were met by their neighbors, whose lifeless bodies dangled outside the building, limbs scattered about.

My mother was shocked yet moved by the courageous young Palestinian men who rushed to assist, covering and evacuating those who might still have a chance to survive into an ambulance. That family was one of the poorest in the neighborhood and caring for children with special needs.

Palestinians can no longer hope to be spared from the horrors unfolding around them. Conditions have become so horrifying that my 5-year-old niece, Nour, who just started kindergarten a few weeks ago, now recites prayers that seem beyond her years, reminiscent of an adult's devotion. When this latest round of violence started, her primary concern was safeguarding her dearest possession, her kindergarten backpack with its colorful erasers.

What's happening in Gaza—the rampant destruction of physical landmarks and countless families—is also erasing the cherished memories we once held of this place. Last night my family's neighborhood was bombed. I haven't heard from them yet.

Will this cruelty ever end? I don't know.

"We're going to turn [Gaza] into a parking lot," a U.S. congressman said on Fox News recently. Right now, it feels as though we're halfway there. Half the houses are already gone.

The Gaza you see on TV and social media videos is not the Gaza that my family or I recognize. That Gaza, the one I love, is gone.

To salvage what remains, to avert an even graver disaster and to reignite hope, I implore President Biden and the international community to truly see Gaza's plight, seek an end to the bombing, starting with a ceasefire, and provide more humanitarian assistance so that Gaza can live.

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this is surely no overreach. There are due process protections.

Of course, it would be foolish to think that red flag laws could be the final word on gun violence in this country—or even mass shootings, given Card's rampage was the 36th such event this year in the U.S. The problem is much bigger than that. But Americans are tired of so much inaction in the face of such obvious peril. And this isn't just some minor element of our gun violence epidemic. More Americans die each year from gun-involved suicide than are shot dead by others. Indeed, if Congress wants to demonstrate it's paying attention (and newly elected House Speaker Mike Johnson is looking to build bipartisan consensus in his chamber), there is scarcely a better policy to pursue. The House approved similar legislation, the Federal Extreme Risk Protection Order Act , in 2022 under Democratic leadership, but it failed to muster the needed votes in the U.S. Senate.

This time it was Lewiston. Before there was Uvalde and El Paso, Texas; Virginia Beach, Virginia; Parkland, Florida; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Newtown, Connecticut, and that's just a small sample of the last decade or so. When will enough really be enough?

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wan), causing the Soviets to boycott council meetings, which meant they couldn't exercise their veto. In their absence, the body authorized a U.N. force—led by the U.S. but including 14 other nations—to liberate South Korea.

These days, such intervention is unthinkable. Last year, one member of the Security Council, Russia, invaded another U.N. member, Ukraine, and keeps tormenting its population to this day. Then Hamas went on its rampage. And yet the international "community," such as it is, can't even agree on what to call such terrorism.

Admittedly, the U.N. still plays a vital role in other ways. Its norms and conventions regulated everything from international telecommunications to seafaring and its relief agencies work hard to alleviate the human toll of conflicts and disaster in Gaza and beyond.

But in times of crisis such as now, the General Assembly and Security Council turn into a Babel in which everybody distrusts everybody else and finding common words becomes impossible. When U.N. Secretary General António Guterres condemned the Hamas terror but added that the attacks "did not happen in a vacuum," Israel's representative, Gilad Erdan, accused him of "blood libel" and demanded his resignation.

And so things fall apart; the center cannot hold. That center was to be the League of Nations in Wilson's day and the United Nations in ours. Instead, as Israel's Erdan has said and the Czech Republic's Cernochova and others would agree, the United Nations "no longer holds even one ounce of legitimacy or relevance." We have entered another age of disunited nations, an era when mere anarchy is loosed upon the world.

CUC schedules slew of power service interruptions in Nov.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be scheduled power service interruptions during the month of November 2023, as CUC continues its ongoing system maintenance. See additional information below:

CUC

Map of the power interruption on Nov. 2 in Garapan.

CUC

Map of the power interruption on Nov. 7 from Gualo Rai to XO Market.

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023
Power service interruption time: 9am-1pm

■ Area(s) affected: Garapan (Alaihai Ave.)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace a rotted primary pole with an anchor.

Momentary power service interruption time: 9am-9:30am and 12:30pm-1pm

■ Area(s) affected: Garapan (Kadena Di Amor St., Chichirica Ave., and Dama Di Noche St.)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Power service interruption time: 9am-1pm

■ Area(s) affected: Garapan (partial of Beach Road and partial of Dama Di Noche St.)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace one leaning wood primary pole with a 3-phase bank transformer to a concrete pole.

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023
Power service interruption time: 9am-2pm

■ Area(s) affected: Gualo Rai (XO Market, Marianas Repair, Pumpkin St., and String Beans Ave.)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace two wooden power poles to concrete, and to remove and re-install 3-phase bank transformers.

Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023
Momentary power service interruption time: 8:30am-9am and 3pm-3:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Smiling Cove Marina (Marina Enforcement Facility), Industrial Dr. (Shell Marianas, Winners Gas, Mobil Oil Marianas, Division of Customs Service, Saipan Shipping Company, Inc., Saipan Stevedore, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and portions of the U.S. Army Reserve), and Lower Base (Sea Plane Ramp Pl.)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: S-1 and S-3

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Power service interruption time: 8:30qm-3:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Smiling Cove Marina (Marine Enforcement Facility)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace five 45-foot wooden primary power poles to concrete.

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023
Momentary power service interruption time: 6am- 6:30am and 9:30am-10am

■ Area(s) affected: Susupe (from Sun Palace area south to Arizona Building)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: A-6

■ Traffic light(s) affected: Marianas High School and Joeten Susupe

Power service interruption time: 6am-10am

■ Area(s) affected: Susupe (partial)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: A-6

■ Traffic light(s) affected: Joeten Susupe

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace one 45-foot wooden primary power pole to concrete and decommission one 45-foot concrete pole under the DPW Route 33 project.

Power service interruption time: 6am-1pm

■ Area(s) affected: Susupe (from Arizona Building south to the Mt. Carmel Cathedral Traffic Light)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: Susupe (near Mr. Carmel Cathedral)

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to relocate three 45-foot concrete poles under the DPW Route 33 project.

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023
Power service interruption time: 9am-1pm

■ Area(s) affected: Chalan Laulau (Nguus Dr. and McDonald's)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace one wooden primary power pole with a 3-phase transformer bank to concrete.

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023
Momentary power service interruption time: 8:30am-9am and 3pm-3:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Smiling Cove Marina (Marine Enforcement Facility), Industrial Dr. (Shell Marianas, Winners Gas, Mobil Oil Marianas, Division of Customs Service, Saipan Shipping Company, Inc., Saipan Stevedore, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and portions of the U.S. Army Reserve), and Lower Base (Sea Plane Ramp Pl.)

■ Wastewater facility affected: S-1 and S-3

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Power service interruption time: 8:30am-3:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Industrial Dr. (portions of the U.S. Army Reserve)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace five 45-foot wooden primary poles to concrete.

Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023
Momentary power service interruption time: 8:30am-9am and 2pm-2:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Chalan Tun Kiyoshi Rd and Pontan Dr.

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Power service interruption time: 8:30am-2:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Portions of Chalan Tun Kiyoshi Rd and Pontan Dr.

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace four existing 55-foot concrete poles to 45-foot concrete poles.

Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023
Power service interruption time: 6am-2pm

■ Area(s) affected: El Toro, Dandan; Kannat Tabla; Baptist School; Airport Road, San Vicente; Lower & Upper Dandan; Dandan Middle School; Northern Marianas College; Isley Field; Obyan; Commonwealth Ports Authority/Airport; As Lito; Chalan Msgr. Martinez Rd; Saipan International School; Tottotville; Chalan Joaquin Doi Rd; St. Jude Church; and portions of Chalan Kanoa.

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: As Terlaje, Dandan (near Shell), San Vicente (near Iglecia ni Cristo), and As Lito/As Perdido Intersection.

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace one 45-foot wooden primary power pole to concrete, and to replace two 45-foot wooden power poles to 55-foot concrete poles.

Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023
Power service interruption time: 9am-1pm

■ Area(s) affected: Capitol Hill (Egigi Dr.)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace four 45-foot wooden primary power poles to concrete.

Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023
Momentary power service interruption time: 8:30am-9am and 2pm-2:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Smiling Cove Marina (Marine Enforcement Facility), Industrial Dr. (Shell Marianas, Winners Gas, Mobil Oil Marianas, Division of Customs Service, Saipan Shipping Company, Inc., Saipan Stevedore, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and portions of the U.S. Army Reserve), and Lower Base (Sea Plane Ramp Pl.).

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: S-1 and S-3

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Power service interruption rime: 8:30am-2:30pm

■ Area(s) Affected: Industrial Dr. (Shell Marianas, Winners Gas, and portions of the U.S. Army Reserve)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace four 45-foot wooden primary power poles to concrete.

Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023
Power service interruption time: 6am-2pm

■ Area(s) affected: Smiling Cove Marina (Marina Enforcement Facility), Industrial Dr. (Shell Marianas, Winners Gas, Mobil Oil Marianas, Division of Customs Service, Saipan Shipping Company, Inc., Saipan Stevedore, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and portions of the U.S. Army Reserve), Lower Base (Sea Plane Ramp Pl.), Puerto Rico, and Upper & Lower Navy Hill.

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: Puerto Rico and Lower Navy Hill

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace two 50-foot and three 45-foot wooden power poles to concrete.

Monday, Nov. 27, 2023
Momentary power service interruption time: 8:30am-9am and 3pm-3:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Lower Base (CUC Power Plant-1 and DFW), Puerto Rico (CPA Seaport, Saipan Shipping Company, Division of Customs Service, Mobil Oil Marianas, Shell Marianas, and partial of the U.S. Army Reserve), and Smiling Cove Marina (Marine Enforcement Facility)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Power service interruption time: 8:30am-3:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Smiling Cove Marina (Marine Enforcement Facilitya)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to place four 45-foot wooden primary power poles to concrete.

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2023
Momentary power service interruption time: 8:30am-9am and 2pm-2:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Susupe and partial of Chalan Kanoa

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Power service interruption time: 8:30am-2:30pm

■ Area(s) affected: Susupe (Nauru Lp., Pisao Pl., and Texas Rd.)

■ Water well(s) affected: None

■ Wastewater facility affected: None

■ Traffic light(s) affected: None

Purpose: For the CUC linemen to replace four 45-foot wooden primary power poles to concrete, and to remove and re-install two sets of 3-phase transformer banks.

CUC appreciates the public's understanding and patience during these power service interruptions.

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(CUC)***

Business

The Hybrid Shop introduces 'print, cut, and sew' uniforms

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

As the island completely emerges from COVID-19, James Aguirre Rabauliman sees an opportunity in producing custom-made sports jerseys.

That's why his company, The Hybrid Shop, is pivoting toward making what he calls "print, cut, and sew" uniforms especially geared for sports teams and individuals.

"The custom shirt orders usually start with an inquiry. Then, we have a one-on-one exchange of ideas toward the design they envision. They also can come in with an image from the internet or a drawing."

Rabauliman said The Hybrid Shop uses T-shirt sublimation technology to churn out their innovative jersey designs using the specifications of clients.

"We use dye-sublimation, heat press vinyl, and direct-to-film printing. We first make a digital image and then insert it into a shirt pattern. Then we print it into a sublimation paper, press it into a dry-fit fabric, cut the pattern properly, and then sew all the patterns together to make the shirts," he said.

And that explains the inventive "print, cut, and sew" term Rabauliman uses to call The Hybrid Shop's custom jersey technique.

The Marianas High School alumnus and former Dynamic Air flight attendant said as the CNMI puts the pandemic farther and farther away in the rearview mirror, all manner of sports is back with a vengeance and, aside from sports equipment, players always need uniforms.

MARK RABAGO

The Hybrid Shop is located along the Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Pathway right across the UFO and McDonald's pavilions in Garapan.

Asked who planted the seed of entrepreneurship in him, the 31-year-old immediately answered that his mother has always been a great influence.

Rabauliman's mother is Liberty and, together with the young James, they sold and supplied mainly vegetables all over the island.

"I've always been a salesman. Growing up I helped my mother sell Filipino delicacies at the Sabalu Market and Street Market. Getting orders from my teachers and all the staff at my former schools then giving the orders to my parents," he said.

The genesis of The Hybrid Shop, meanwhile, was due to Rabauliman suddenly realizing he had a young family to support.

"I knew that I wanted to get into making uniforms, specifically dye-sublimation, which made us the first one on the island."

MARK RABAGO

Owner James Aguirre Rabauliman is spearheading his business' pivot toward "print, cut, and sew" uniforms especially geared for sports teams and individuals.

MARK RABAGO

Owner James Aguirre Rabauliman demonstrates how to cut The Hybrid Shop's a "print, cut, and sew" jersey.

He also gained some notoriety when his Tiktok upload on how to make DIY facemasks gained thousands of views during the height of COVID-19, leading to $5,000 in overnight sales.

What he earned from the sales of those facemasks allowed him to purchase a state-of-the-art sublimation printer and heat press.

Aside from dye-sublimation T-shirts and sports jerseys, The Hybrid Shop also sells custom-made varsity jackets, island graphic shirts, custom tumblers, mini and actual size flags of all islands in the Micronesia region, and his newest foray, making high-definition metal prints for just about every image you want to display.

The Hybrid Shop is located along the Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Pathway right across the UFO and McDonald's pavilions in Garapan.

It is open Monday to Saturday from 11am to 6pm. For more information, call (670)788-57-22 email: 670hybridshop@gmail.com Instagram: @hybridspn Facebook: @highbreedshop and website: www.shopthehybrid.com.

Rabauliman added that everything sold at The Hybrid Shop can also be bought at the online store and can be shipped to customers.

Hyatt makes in-kind donations to DOC, SHS

"We care for people so they can be their best" is at the core of Hyatt. As part of World of Care that brings Hyatt's purpose to life through actions in advancing care for the planet, people, and responsible business, Hyatt Regency Saipan showed its contributions by donating linen and towels worth over $12,000 to the CNMI Department of Corrections and to the Saipan Humane Society.

Saipan Humane Society board member Sandy Weaver was especially thankful to receive these much-needed donations as animals need exactly such items to provide proper care post-surgery. Weaver has made inquiries to many businesses and hope to have more of such contributions. She was grateful to take away her truckload.

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Simon Graf and Rooms director Ally Hong were present during the charity activities for the Department of Corrections as well as the Saipan Humane Society. ***(Hyatt)***

HYATT

Hyatt Regency Saipan staff poses with Department of Corrections representatives after the turnover of donated linens and towels.

HYATT

Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Rooms Ally Hong, left, and Saipan Humane Society board member Sandy Weaver pose with the donated linens and towels.

Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant starts 3rd release of treated radioactive wastewater

TOKYO (AP)—The tsunami-damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant began its third release of treated and diluted radioactive wastewater into the sea Thursday after Japanese officials said the two earlier releases ended smoothly.

The plant operator discharged 7,800 tons of treated water in each of the first two batches and plans to release the same amount in the current batch through Nov. 20.

Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings said its workers activated the first of the two pumps to dilute the treated water with large amounts of seawater, gradually sending the mixture into the Pacific Ocean through an undersea tunnel for an offshore release.

The plant began the first wastewater release in August and will continue to do so for decades. About 1.34 million tons of radioactive wastewater is stored in about 1,000 tanks at the plant. It has accumulated since the plant was crippled by the massive earthquake and tsunami that struck northeastern Japan in 2011.

Toyota recalls nearly 1.9M RAV4s to fix batteries

DETROIT (AP)—Toyota said Wednesday it is recalling nearly 1.9 million RAV4 small SUVs in the U.S. to fix a problem with batteries that can move during forceful turns and potentially cause a fire.

The recall covers certain RAV4s from the 2013 through 2018 model years. Toyota said in a statement that some replacement 12-volt batteries used in the SUVs have smaller top dimensions than others. If the hold-down clamp is not tightened properly, the battery could move, allowing the positive terminal to contact the clamp and short circuit, the company said.

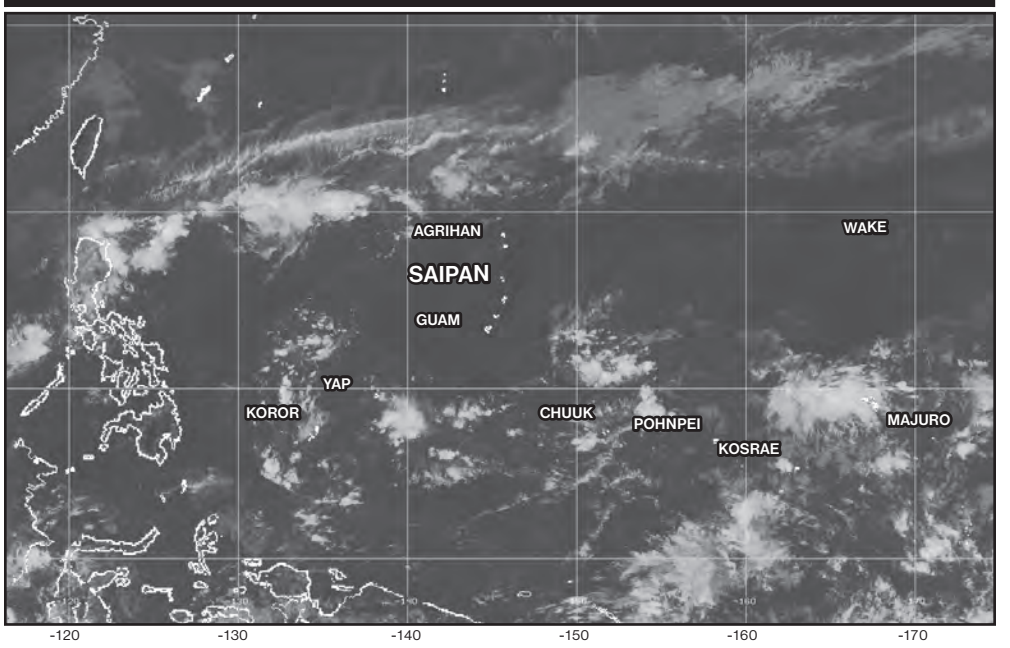
Toyota said it is still preparing a fix. When the remedy is ready, dealers will replace the hold-down clamp, battery tray and positive terminal cover with improved ones. The company said it will notify owners by late December.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers.	Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers.
87 78°	87 78°	87 78°	87 78°	87 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:18 AM,THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Drier conditions today with mainly passing short-lived trade showers. Late tonight into tomorrow, a subtle trough could bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. A better chance for showers and thunderstorms possible late weekend into early next week as models continue to indicate a possible tropical disturbance passing near to south of the Marianas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Palau	Cloudy	84° / 78°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	83° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Cloudy	86° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Sunday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Monday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Tuesday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	11:06 AM	10:27 PM
Saturday	-	11:56 AM	11:21 PM
Sunday	-	12:40 PM	-
Monday	12:13 AM	1:20 PM	-
Tuesday	1:02 AM	1:57 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Light Rain	71° / 61°
Beijing	Haze	72° / 56°
Hong Kong	Fair	83° / 75°
Honolulu	Thunderstorms	85° / 72°
London	Partly Cloudy	59° / 45°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	69° / 56°
Manila	Showers	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Cloudy	61° / 46°
Miami	Mostly Sunny	79° / 73°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	56° / 52°
Osaka	Sunny	64° / 48°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	61° / 46°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	68° / 55°
Rome	Sunny	68° / 45°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	75° / 54°
San Francisco	Sunny	60° / 51°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	78° / 63°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	76° / 57°
Washington, DC	Cloudy	56° / 51°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
5:10 AM	Low Tide	-0.26
1:11 PM	High Tide	1.64
6:30 PM	Low Tide	1.27
9:55 PM	High Tide	1.43

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 30, 2023

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA076	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	7:05AM	9:45AM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	7:50PM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:55PM	9:50PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

7C3403/2305	4:40AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:50PM	Daily via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	2:15AM	6:10AM	Daily
7C3403	4:40AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:35PM	8:25PM	Daily

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	9:25PM	2:00AM+1	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA189	00:40AM	6:30AM	3, 6
PR110	10:05PM	3:55AM+1	Daily
UA192	10:40PM	6:30AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA184	10:55PM	4:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA189/174	00:40AM	8:45AM+1	3, 6 via Guam
UA192/174	10:40PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	10:55PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
7C2306/3406	11:15PM	3:30PM+1	Daily

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	10:10AM	3:30PM	Daily
TW307	7:45PM	1:15AM+1	Daily
7C3404	10:15PM	3:35AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 30, 2023

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Oct 21-31, 2023
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Oct 21-31, 2023
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

Nation

Biden calls for humanitarian 'pause' in Israel-Hamas war

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—President Joe Biden said he thought there should be a humanitarian "pause" in the Israel-Hamas war, after his campaign speech Wednesday evening was interrupted by a protester calling for a cease-fire.

"I think we need a pause," Biden said.

The call was a subtle departure for Biden and top White House aides, who throughout the Mideast crisis have been steadfast in stating they will not dictate how the Israelis carry out their military operations in response to the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas.

But the president has faced intensifying pressure from human rights groups, fellow world leaders and even liberal members of his own Democratic Party, who say that the Israeli bombardment of Gaza is collective punishment and that it is time for a cease-fire.

In his comments, Biden was exerting pressure on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to give Palestinians at least a brief reprieve from the relentless military operation that's left thousands dead and mired the 141-square-mile strip in a roiling humanitarian crisis.

The White House has refused to call for a cease-fire but has signaled that the Israelis should consider humanitarian pauses to allow civilians to receive aid and

AP

President Joe Biden arrives on Marine One at Minneapolis–Saint Paul International Airport in St. Paul, Minn., Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023, after speaking in Northfield, Minn.

for foreign nationals trapped on the strip to leave Gaza.

Israeli ground troops have advanced near Gaza City in heavy fighting with militants, the military said on Wednesday. Meanwhile, hundreds of foreign nationals and dozens of seriously injured Palestinians were allowed to leave Gaza after more than three weeks under siege.

The first people to leave Gaza—other than four hostages released by Hamas and another rescued by Israeli forces—crossed into Egypt, escaping even as bombings drive hundreds of thousands from their homes, and food, water and fuel run low.

White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said earlier on Wednesday that Biden's newly confirmed ambassador to Israel, Jack Lew, would soon be dispatched to the Middle East and would be tasked in part with "supporting U.S. efforts to create the conditions for a humanitarian pause to address the worsening humanitarian conditions facing Palestinian civilians."

Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Michael Herzog told "The Hill" on NewsNation Wednesday "we don't need urging" in response to calls for more aid for Gaza.

"We are ramping up humanitarian supplies into Gaza in those areas which are away from Hamas in the southern part of Gaza. The number of truckloads doubles and is going to pick up more and more," he said. "We provide water. We provide other types of supplies."

He said to NewsNation they were happy to see foreigners leave Gaza. "So we don't need urging, urging in that sense. Our Cabinet discussed this week this issue and decided there are no limitations as long as we can make sure that Hamas does not put its hands on humanitarian supplies and uses them to feed its war machine. That will not happen. Short of that, everything is open."

On Wednesday evening, Biden was speaking to a crowd of supporters in Minneapolis about his reasons for running for president in 2020 when a woman got up and yelled: "Mr. President, if you care about Jewish people, as a rabbi, I need you to call for a cease-fire."

His presence in the city drew more than 1,000 demonstrators not far from where the fundraiser was held, and they carried Palestinian flags and signs that said "Stop Bombing Children," "Free Palestine" and "Ceasefire now."

Biden said he understood the emotions motivating the demonstrator, who was quickly shouted down by others in the room and removed. He said, when asked, that a pause "means give time to get the prisoners out." White House officials later clarified he meant hostages and humanitarian aid.

"This is incredibly complicated for the Israelis," Biden went on. "It's incredibly complicated for the Muslim world as well. ... I supported a two-state solution, I have from the very beginning."

"The fact of the matter is that Hamas is a terrorist organization. A flat-out terrorist organization," he said.

But Biden noted that he's been working on humanitarian aid, saying he was the one who convinced both Netanyahu and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi to allow aid into Gaza.

Rep. Santos survives effort to expel him from the House

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. George Santos easily survived a vote Wednesday to expel him from the House as most Republicans and 31 Democrats opted to withhold punishment while both his criminal trial and a House Ethics Committee investigation proceed.

The effort to kick Santos out of the House was led by his fellow New York Republicans, who are anxious to distance themselves from a colleague infamous for fabricating his life story and accused of stealing from donors, lying to Congress and receiving unemployment benefits he did not deserve.

But the resolution failed to gain the required two-thirds vote. Supporters could not even gain a simple majority, with the final vote being 179 for expulsion and 213 against.

To succeed, numerous Republican lawmakers would have had to break ranks with newly elected Speaker Mike Johnson, who has said Santos should get his day in court. Johnson, R-La., also recently told Fox News that if Congress is going to expel members because they are charged with a crime or accused of wrongdoing, "that's a problem."

Some Democrats also voiced concerns about getting ahead of the Ethics Committee, which issued a rare memo the day before, citing the depth of its investigation with some 40 witnesses contacted and the issuance of 37 subpoenas. It also said the next steps of the committee's investigation would be announced by Nov. 17.

"I feel like due process is still alive. I feel like there's enough colleagues on both sides of the aisle here who understand that," Santos said after the vote.

Congress has rarely resorted to the most extreme punishment at its disposal. The House has expelled only five members in its history — three during the Civil War and two after their convictions on public corruption charges. It would be groundbreaking for the House to kick out Santos before his case in federal court is resolved.

Some Republicans, however, said they had seen enough of Santos. Rep. Steve Womack, R-Ark., said he believes in due process, but also thinks Santos misrepresented himself to New York voters and they never would have elected him if they had "known the true George Santos."

"We don't need the Santos charade all the way through the 2024 election cycle. I think the Congress needs to take action now," Womack said.

The House floor debate over whether to expel Santos was undertaken strictly by members of the New York congressional delegation. On one side, Republican Reps. Anthony D'Esposito, Nick LaLota and Mike Lawler laid out their case for expelling Santos.

"Mr. Santos is a stain on this institution and not fit to serve his constituents in the House of Representatives," D'Esposito said.

On the other side was Santos, who appealed to lawmakers to hold off on expulsion, saying that passing judgment without due process would engender mistrust.

"I'm fighting tooth and nail to clear my name in front of the entire world," Santos said. "It hasn't been easy, but I'm fighting by God's grace."

The only Democratic lawmaker to speak during the debate was Rep. Dan Goldman. He said Santos should have been expelled in May when Democrats brought an expulsion resolution, and the only reason the New York Republicans were leading the effort now was because Santos "hangs like an albatross around the necks of every single Republican from New York."

"They don't care any more about integrity or morality or the reputation of this institution than they did in May when they voted to protect Mr. Santos," Goldman said. "They just care about their reelection in one year when they know that their support for George Santos is going to be a problem."

The New York Republicans laid out in their expulsion resolution the array of charges Santos is facing in federal court, saying the charges indicated Santos engaged in serious financial fraud throughout his 2022 campaign for the House. The resolution said he deceived voters regarding his biography and is "not fit to serve his constituents as United States Representative."

Johnson says Ukraine aid, coupled with border security, is next on GOP agenda

WASHINGTON (AP)—New Speaker Mike Johnson told Republican senators Wednesday that a fresh Ukraine aid package linked to U.S. border security will come up quickly in the House, as soon as lawmakers wrap up the $14.5 billion Israel aid package that is heading for passage this week.

Johnson, who has been on the job a week, made the trip across the Capitol to speak privately with GOP senators to outline the agenda ahead. He also said the House plans to pass a stopgap bill to fund the government into next year to avoid a federal shutdown on Nov. 17 when current funding runs out.

Later, discussing the Israel aid during a Fox News event at the Capitol, Johnson said, "We're going to get it done."

Johnson was greeted with applause at the start of the lunch meeting, a get-to-know-you session for a new GOP speaker that many senators had never met — or even heard of — until he won a longshot race to replace the ousted Kevin McCarthy.

"Look, we all like the new speaker, we want him to be successful," Sen. J.D. Vance, R-Ohio, who opposes more aid to Ukraine, said afterward. "And that was the tenor of the conversation."

The new speaker told the senators Ukraine needs U.S. aid as it battles Russia, but there was no way President Joe Biden's nearly $106 billion supplemental funding request, which includes aid for Israel, could be passed through the House.

"'We want to take up Ukraine,'" was his message, said Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., who opposes more funding for the overseas war.

Hawley said Johnson told the Republican senators the "next order of business" after the Israel package would be the Ukraine-U.S. border package.

Senate Democratic Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said Wednesday that the House's Israel-only approach was dead on arrival in the Senate.

The House's approach to emergency funds for Israel requires that the $14.5 billion be offset with spending cuts elsewhere — namely, gutting the beefed-up Internal Revenue Service funds Biden and congressional Democrats secured last year to go after tax cheats. The Congressional Budget Office said Wednesday the House's bill would actually end up costing the federal government $12.5 billion because of the reduction in tax revenues.

Johnson's position puts him politically sideways with Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, who is working to approve Israel and Ukraine aid together, aid to Taiwan and funding for U.S. border security.

But McConnell had also made it clear earlier this week that Democrats "will have to accept" a serious U.S.-Mexico border security measure as part of any package with Ukraine funding.

Asia

China keeps up military pressure on rival Taiwan

AP

A Taiwan national flag flutters near the Taipei 101 building at the National Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall in Taipei, Taiwan, on May 7, 2023.

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan said Wednesday that China sent 43 military aircraft and seven ships near the self-ruled island, the latest sign that Beijing plans no let-up in its campaign of harassment, threats and intimidation.

Taiwan's Defense Ministry said the figure was current for the 24 hours up to 6:00 a.m. Wednesday and that 37 of the aircraft had crossed the median line in the Taiwan Strait, which China no longer recognizes as an informal divider between the sides.

It said Taiwan had monitored the situation, scrambled jet fighters, dispatched ships and activated land-based missile systems, all standard responses to Chinese military activities, which include crossing into Taiwan's air defense identification zone but not into its actual airspace.

Such Chinese maneuvers have become frequent and aggressive since then- U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan in August 2022. China suspended military communication with the U.S. to show its displeasure over her trip to Taiwan, which Beijing considers part of its territory to be brought under under its control by force if necessary.

China's military maneuvers are seen as intended to break down Taiwanese morale, exhausting its pilots and other personnel and wearing down its equipment. Despite that, the present status of de-facto independence remains widely popular among the island's voters and the defense budget has been increased to purchase new equipment from the U.S., its chief ally, and to produce some items locally, including submarines.

At an international defense forum in Beijing on Monday, China's second-ranking military official Gen. Zhang Youxia reiterated threats by the Chinese government to retaliate against moves toward establishing Taiwan's formal independence, saying that "no matter who tries to split Taiwan from China in any form, China and the Chinese military will never allow that to happen."

Zhang, who is also vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, which oversees the world's largest standing military, opened the three-day event in the absence of former Defense Minister Gen. Li Shangfu, who would have normally hosted the event.

Li was removed from his position last week after a two-month absence from public view. The government has not provided any reason for his removal.

Seoul: N. Korea likely sent missiles, ammunition, and shells to Russia

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea has likely supplied several types of missiles to Russia to support its war in Ukraine, along with its widely reported shipments of ammunition and shells, South Korea's military said Thursday.

The assessment was released a day after South Korea's spy service told lawmakers that North Korea recently provided more than a million artillery shells to Russia amid deepening military cooperation between the two countries, both key U.S. adversaries.

In a background briefing for local journalists, South Korea's military said that North Korea is suspected of sending an unspecified number of short-range ballistic missiles, anti-tank missiles and portable anti-air missiles to Russia, in addition to rifles, rocket launchers, mortars and shells.

The contents of the briefing were shared with The Associated Press.

Last week, South Korea, the U.S. and Japan strongly condemned what they call North Korea's supply of munitions and military equipment to Russia, saying that such weapons shipments sharply increase the human toll of Russia's war in Ukraine. Any weapons trade with North Korea would be a violation of multiple U.N. Security Council resolutions, which Russia, a permanent U.N. Security Council member, previously endorsed.

Both Russia and North Korea dismissed the weapons shipment accusations as baseless.

Outside speculation about North Korean arms shipments flared after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un traveled to Russia in September to meet President Vladimir Putin and visit key military facilities. The U.S. and its allies accuse North Korea of seeking high-tech Russian technologies to modernize its arsenal of nuclear weapons and missiles in return for its shipments of conventional arms.

World

AS GAZA WAR, CRITICISM INTENSIFIES

Blinken heads to Israel, Jordan

AP

Secretary of State Antony Blinken testifies before a Senate Appropriations Committee hearing to examine the national security supplemental request, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Antony Blinken will visit Israel and Jordan this week as Israel's war in Gaza and international criticism of it intensify, the State Department said Wednesday.

Blinken will depart Washington on Thursday and will be in Israel and Jordan on Friday and Further stops in the Middle East are possible, meaning the trip may follow the frenetic pace of Blinken's last trip to the region shortly after the Oct. 7 Hamas attacks in Israel where last-minute schedule changes were frequent. Blinken ended up traveling to Israel three times as well as six Arab nations during that trip.

Blinken will be entering a diplomatic maelstrom that will likely complicate his mission. Jordan announced Wednesday that it had recalled its ambassador to Israel and would not permit Israel's ambassador to Jordan to return to the country. It said it would not revisit those moves until the Gaza conflict was over.

State Department spokesman Matthew Miller said Blinken would once again underscore the Biden administration's support for Israel's right to defend itself but also stress the importance of minimizing civilian casualties and ensuring that humanitarian assistance reaches innocent Palestinians in Gaza.

Securing the release of hundred of Israelis and others held hostage by Hamas in Gaza, easing the transit of dual Palestinian nationals and foreigners currently in Gaza into Egypt and preventing a broader regional war from erupting will also be key agenda items, Miller said.

At the same time, Blinken wants to begin a conversation with Israel and with Jordan about an end game for the Gaza conflict once it is over, Miller said. To that end, Blinken will push Israeli officials on reining in violence being committed by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the West Bank and will be re-stating U.S. backing for the eventual establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, he said.

Blinken speak about "the U.S. commitment to working with partners to set the conditions for a durable and sustainable peace in the Middle East to include the establishment of a Palestinian state that reflects the aspirations of the Palestinian people in Gaza and in the West Bank," Miller said.

Opposition mounts in Arab countries that normalized relations with Israel

RABAT, Morocco (AP)—Arab nations that have normalized or are considering improving relations with Israel are coming under growing public pressure to cut those ties because of Israel's war with Hamas.

Tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets of Rabat and other Moroccan cities in support of the Palestinians. In Bahrain—a country that almost never allows protest—police stood by as hundreds of people marched last month, waving flags and gathering in front of the Israeli Embassy in Manama.

The demonstrations, which mirror protests across the Middle East, present an uncomfortable dilemma for governments that have enjoyed the benefits of closer military and economic ties with Israel in recent years.

In Egypt, which has had ties with Israel for decades, protesters rallied in cities and at universities, at times chanting "Death to Israel." A parliamentary committee in Tunisia last week advanced a draft law that would criminalize normalization with Israel.

In Morocco and Bahrain, the public anger has an additional dimension; activists are demanding the reversal of agreements that formalize ties with Israel, underscoring discord between the governments and public opinion.

The U.S.-brokered Abraham Accords, aimed at winning broader recognition of Israel in the Arab world, paved the way for trade deals and military cooperation with Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates starting in 2020. Their autocratic rulers—as well as American and Israeli officials—continue to frame the deals as a step toward a " new Middle East " in which closer ties could foster peace and prosperity.

The accords marked a major diplomatic victory for Morocco because they led the U.S.—and eventually Israel—to recognize its autonomy over the disputed Western Sahara. Morocco's Foreign Ministry did not respond to questions about the agreement or protests.

Off The Wall

A battle of wreaths in Arctic

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)—A battle of wreaths erupted Wednesday when a Russian diplomat in the Arctic town of Kirkenes in northern Norway reportedly put his garland on top of Norway's at a monument for the 1944 liberation of the region by Soviet troops.

Magnus Mæland, the municipality mayor, then angrily removed the Russian wreath—only to have a woman, described by Norwegian public broadcaster NRK as being Russian, put it back.

"You don't behave like that here," Mæland told NRK. "One should be able to lay flowers at a monument, but not over the municipality's official wreath."

Several local people in the border town only 7 kilometers (4.3 miles) from the Russian border, had called on Russian officials to stay away from the ceremony.

In an op-ed published last week, local historians Marit Bjerkeng and Harald Sunde wrote that "official representatives of Russia should not hold any commemoration or appear at memorials on Norwegian soil," saying it will be seen "as an insult to Norway, to Ukraine and to victims of war in all countries."

The ceremony commemorates the Oct. 25, 1944 liberation in World War II of Kirkenes by the Soviet army, which had entered neighboring Norway, then occupied by Nazi Germany.

Since then, the date is marked annually. In 2019, on the 75th anniversary, Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov laid wreaths at the monument and stood side-by-side with Norway's foreign minister.

There was no immediate comment from Nikolai Konygin, who heads Russia's Consulate in Kirkenes, which has three diplomats.

Man trapped in jewelry vault overnight freed when timer opens the chamber as scheduled

NEW YORK (AP)—A man was trapped inside a steel-reinforced concrete jewelry vault in New York City overnight after firefighters had to abandon an attempt to rescue him for safety reasons. Fortunately, the vault was on a timer and opened on its own Wednesday morning, officials said.

The fire department was called to the midtown Manhattan building on Tuesday evening after the man became trapped while trying to access his safe deposit box, Assistant Fire Chief John Sarrocco said. The building at 580 Fifth Avenue is known as the World Diamond Tower and houses several jewelry businesses. Sarrocco did not explain how the man became trapped.

Fire and police department personnel were in communication with the man inside the vault and could watch him on a security camera.

Sarrocco said the fire department's rescue units have tools that would be able to break through the vault's 30-inch (76-centimeter) steel-reinforced concrete walls.

Science & Technology

Chinese astronauts eyeing moon landing before 2030

» China sends youngest-ever crew to space

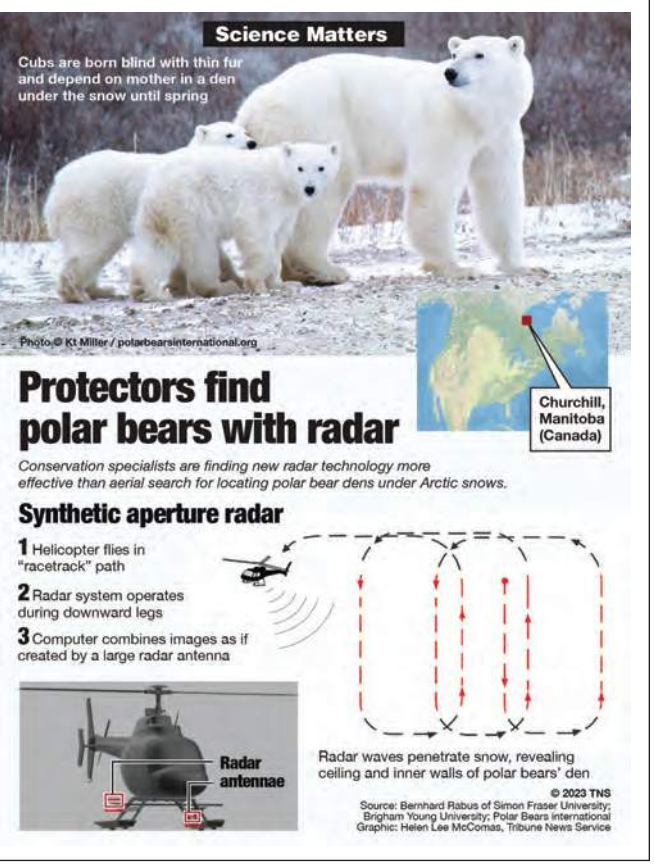
JIUQUAN SATELLITE LAUNCH CENTER, China (AP) — China launched its youngest-ever crew for its orbiting space station on Thursday as it seeks to put astronauts on the moon before 2030.

The Shenzhou 17 spacecraft lifted off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on the edge of the Gobi Desert in northwestern China atop a Long March 2-F rocket at 11:14 a.m. (0314 GMT)

According to the China Manned Space Agency, the average age of the three-member crew is the youngest since the launch of the space station construction mission, state broadcaster CCTV earlier reported. Their average age is 38, state media China Daily said.

Beijing is pursuing plans to place astronauts on the moon before the end of the decade amid a rivalry with the U.S. for reaching new milestones in outer space. This reflects the competition for influence between the world's two largest economies in the technology, military and diplomatic fields.

The trio — Tang Hongbo, Tang Shengjie and Jiang Xinlin — will replace a crew that has been on the station for six months. Tang is a veteran who led a 2021 space mission for three months.


Science Matters
Cubs are born blind with thin fur and depend on mother in a den under the snow until spring
Photo © Kt Miller / polarbearsinternational.org
Churchill, Manitoba (Canada)
Protectors find polar bears with radar
Conservation specialists are finding new radar technology more effective than aerial search for locating polar bear dens under Arctic snows.
Synthetic aperture radar
1 Helicopter flies in "racetrack" path
2 Radar system operates during downward legs
3 Computer combines images as if created by a large radar antenna
Radar antennae
Radar waves penetrate snow, revealing ceiling and inner walls of polar bears' den
© 2023 TNS
Source: Bernhard Rabus of Simon Fraser University; Brigham Young University; Polar Bears International
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

FROM THE FAMILY OF

Rita Castro Sablan

JULY 21, 1940 - OCTOBER 15, 2023

WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR SYMPATHY
AND KINDNESS DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.
OUR FAMILY WILL FOREVER BE GRATEFUL
FOR THE OVERWHELMING LOVE
AND SUPPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED.

THANK YOU

✝Vivian Kisa Santos

Born to Life on June 5, 1969

Was called by her Creator on Friday, October 27, 2023

IN HER NEW LIFE, +Vivian will be greeted at the gates of heaven by her:

MOTHER: +Hilaria Babauta Kisa Santos
FATHER: +Nicolas Baza Santos
MATERNAL GRANDPARENTS: +Enrique Ninaisen Kisa
+Luisa Cruz Babauta Kisa
PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS: +Ramon Agulto Santos
+Magdalena Concepcion Baza Santos

+Vivian's love and memories will forever be cherished in the hearts of her sisters and their children:

Ellen Kisa Santos/Martin C. Dueñas (Marlaine/James; Marilynn/Michael [Matthew & Maya]; Marline/Benny [Ana-Jes & Rai Benjamin]; Martin Jr.; Hilaria/Fredrick [Avery])

Maggie Santos Sablan/Nicolas D. Sablan
(Juanet; Nicolas)

+Vivian will also be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

On Saturday, November 4, 2023 at Santa Soledad Church, the Responso will be said at 9:00 a.m. followed by the Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. and then our Beloved +Vivian will be escorted by her family and friends to the Tanapag Cemetery where she will be laid to rest.

Thank You
and Dångkulo na si Yu'us Ma'åsi'.

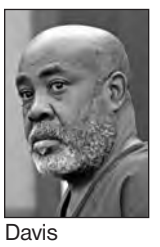
The Family

Life & Style

Man charged with killing Tupac faces arraignment sans lawyer

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The former street gang leader charged with orchestrating the 1996 drive-by killing of Tupac Shakur in Las Vegas is expected to plead not guilty Thursday to murder, amid questions of whether he'll hire a defense lawyer or a judge appoints a public defender.

Duane Keith "Keffe D" Davis, who is described as the only person still alive who was in the vehicle from which shots were fired that night, killing Shakur, is due for arraignment in a Nevada courtroom despite losing his bid to hire local defense attorney Ross Goodman.


Davis

Goodman spoke for Davis outside court two weeks ago, saying that prosecutors lack key evidence and witnesses to the killing committed 27 years ago. The attorney didn't give a reason Wednesday why Davis couldn't hire him.

Davis, 60, is originally from Compton, California. He was arrested Sept. 29 outside a home in suburban Henderson where Las Vegas police served a search warrant July 17, drawing renewed attention to the unsolved murder of one of hip-hop music's most enduring icons.

His indictment alleges Davis provided a gun to someone in the Cadillac from which car-to-car gunfire mortally wounded Shakur and wounded rap music mogul Marion "Suge" Knight at an intersection just off the Las Vegas Strip. Shakur died a week later at age 25.

Knight is now 58 and serving a 28-year prison sentence in California for the death of a Compton businessman in 2015.

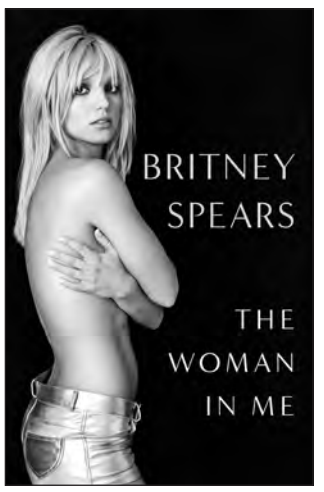
Britney Spears' memoir a million seller after a week since release

NEW YORK (AP)—Britney Spears' memoir "The Woman in Me" has sold 1.1 million copies in the U.S. alone through its first week.

"I poured my heart and soul into my memoir, and I am grateful to my fans and readers around the world for their unwavering support," Spears said in a statement released Wednesday by Gallery Books, a division of Simon & Schuster.

The sales figures include pre-orders, print sales, e-books and audiobooks. "The Woman in Me," released Oct. 24, has been praised by critics as a compelling account of her rise to global fame and her ongoing struggles, including the conservatorship that for years granted her father control of much of her life and her revelation that she had an abortion while dating Justin Timberlake more than 20 years ago.

On the day of publication, Spears posted on Instagram that her book had become "the highest selling celebrity memoir in history." It is not, so far, even the highest selling memoir of 2023.



GALLERY BOOKS VIA AP
This cover image released by Gallery Books shows "The Woman in Me" by Britney Spears, releasing Tuesday, Oct. 24.

"The Woman in Me," for which she did little publicity beyond Instagram, was the top seller of last week. But Prince Harry's memoir "Spare," which came out in January, sold 1.6 million U.S. copies in its first week.

Spears' memoir helped give a strong boost to streams and sales across her music catalog, according to Luminate, a music and entertainment analytics company. In one day last week, from Monday to Tuesday, Spears' catalog jumped 18.2% in on-demand streams, and 36.8% in album sales. The numbers continued to climb over the following days. According to Luminate, her U.S. streams increased 24% over the previous week—from 16 million to 19.8 million; her album sales were up 61.4% and digital sales 49%.

The audio edition of "The Woman in Me," read by Oscar-nominated actor Michelle Williams, appears a key factor in the book's initial popularity. Williams' reading of "The Woman in Me" has been highly acclaimed, and according to Gallery, is the fastest selling audio release in the company's history. The publisher did not immediately announce a specific audio sales figure.

Cher to star in Macy's parade this year

NEW YORK (AP)—Cher is obviously a superstar but even a superstar can be the opening act when it comes to Santa.

Organizers of this year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade have nabbed the Oscar-, Emmy- and Grammy Award-winner for their 97th annual event. Cher will make her appearance just before the parade's end, signaled by the arrival of Santa's sleigh, parade organizers said.

Cher

This year's parade will feature 16 giant character balloons, 26 floats, 32 novelty and heritage inflatables, 12 marching bands, 700 clowns and eight performance groups.

It's a busy time for Cher, who is preparing to release a 25th-anniversary edition of her Grammy-winning album "Believe" and just dropped her first new album in five years, "Christmas."

For the first time in its long history, the holiday tradition will begin at 8:30 a.m. ET, half an hour earlier than previous years, kicked off by multi-instrumentalist and Grammy-winner Jon Batiste.

There will be appearances by Bell Biv DeVoe, Brandy, Chicago, En Vogue, ENHYPEN, David Foster and Katharine McPhee, Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors, Jessie James Decker, Ashley Park with some Muppets from "Sesame Street," Pentatonix, Paul Russell, Amanda Shaw and Alex Smith, and Manuel Turizo.

U.S. Olympic gymnastics silver medalist Jordan Chiles, U.S. track and field Paralympian Ezra Frech and U.S. Paralympic swimming gold medalist Jessica Long and Miss America 2023 Grace Stanke will also join the festivities.

Disney to acquire remainder of Hulu for $8.6B

Walt Disney Co. said it will acquire a 33% stake in Hulu from Comcast for approximately $8.6 billion, a deal that will give Disney undisputed control of the streaming service. Disney has actually run Hulu since 2019, when Comcast ceded its authority to Disney and effectively became a silent partner.

Disney offered no comment beyond saying the acquisition will "further Disney's streaming objectives."

Hulu began in 2007 and quickly evolved into as a service backed by entertainment conglomerates who hoped to stave off the internet with an online platform for their own TV shows. Disney joined in 2009, planning to offer shows from ABC, ESPN and the Disney Channel. A decade later, Disney gained majority control of the business when it acquired 21st Century Fox.

Disney has treated Hulu as one of its own services for years — for instance, when it launched its own streaming service, Disney+, in 2019 and immediately offered a streaming bundle that included Hulu, Disney+ and ESPN+.

More recently, amid increasing pressure on streaming services brought on by untrammeled expansion, low prices and widespread password sharing, Disney has promised its own crackdown on non-paying users and raised prices for ad-free versions of Disney+ and Hulu by 20% to 27%. CEO Bob Iger said in August that the increases were designed to steer consumers toward cheaper ad-supported versions of those channels, whose subscription prices did not change.

Young adult weighs difficult decision

DEAR ABBY: I'm 24 and not where I want to be in life. I have goals and dreams I would like to accomplish. However, my family is super family-oriented. I work for my dad in a family business. He always talks business with me.

I do not want to go into the family business. I have my reasons, one being his side of the family works there and we don't get along. They've never accepted my mom so, therefore, they don't accept me. The other reason is I'm not interested in the business.

My problem is, this is the best I've ever gotten along with my dad. I'm worried he will want nothing to do with me if I quit. On the other hand, my mom has always been supportive. I worry that if I moved away, we wouldn't be so close. I just feel like if I go after my goals and dreams, it will ruin my relationship with my family. What do you think?

EYE ON THE FUTURE

DEAR EYE ON: You are no longer a child. You are an adult who is overdue for a serious talk with your father about those goals and dreams of yours, as well as the treatment you have received from his side of the family. Write your thoughts down before approaching the subject with him. If your father loves you, as I am sure he does, he will want you to be happy as well as successful.

If you can't find the courage to approach this on your own, consider enlisting the help of a licensed mental health professional to help you create some emotional separation. Wanting independence is not a rejection of your father, nor would gaining it guarantee you would no longer be as close to your mom.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have hard feelings for my oldest son. A few years back, I was diagnosed with cancer and needed radiation treatments. The hospital is in my son's hometown, so I asked him if I could sit in their living room between my two treatments a day for six days. He said he would talk to his wife about it.

I tried to call him the day before my treatments started, but he wouldn't answer his phone. I had to sit in my car in the cold of winter for six hours between treatments.

I can't seem to get past this. I don't bring it up to him, but I resent him and his wife for letting me down in my time of need. How can I get over this and let the resentment go?

SAD IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR SAD: Are you and your son and daughter-in-law communicating now? Have they ever explained why they acted the way they did? Did you and your daughter-in-law have some kind of falling out before your diagnosis?

That you were left sitting in a car between cancer treatments on a cold winter days seems unconscionable. That you also "can't get over it" seems rational to me. This may be something you should discuss with your religious adviser, if you have one. Should you need medical assistance in the future, I hope you have found other resources, because if you reach out in your son's direction, all you should expect is more silence.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

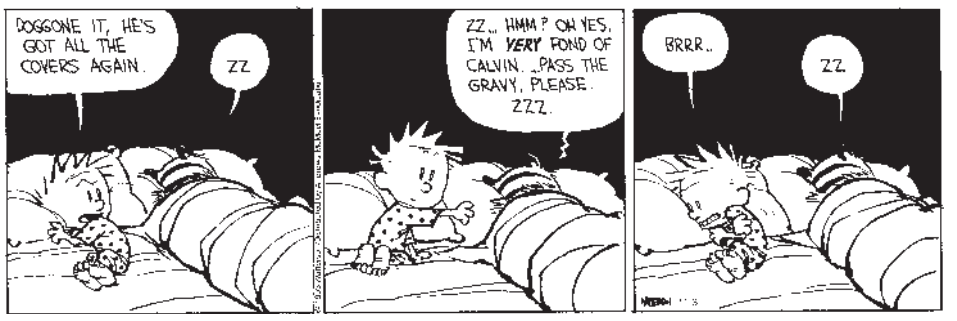
BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



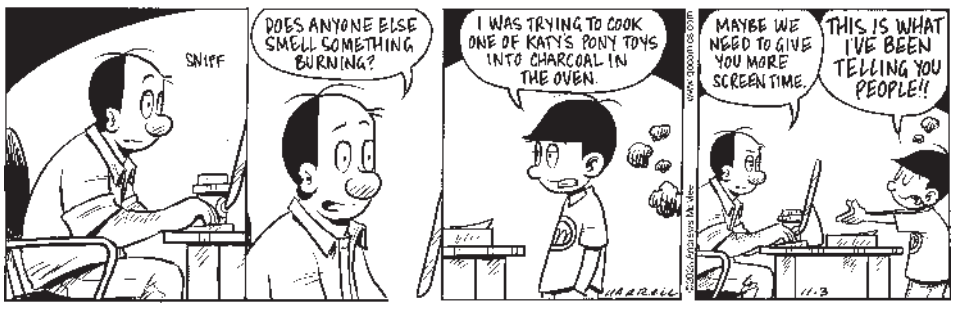
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

WHAT DO THOSE STARS REMIND YOU OF, GARFIELD?
LASAGNA
HOW CAN A SKY FULL OF STARS REMIND YOU OF LASAGNA?
EVERYTHING REMINDS ME OF LASAGNA
WHAT BEAUTIFUL NOODLES YOU HAVE, MY DEAR
YEAH, YEAH

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SNIFF
DOES ANYONE ELSE SMELL SOMETHING BURNING?
I WAS TRYING TO COOK ONE OF KATY'S PONY TOYS INTO CHARCOAL IN THE OVEN.
MAYBE WE NEED TO GIVE YOU MORE SCREEN TIME.
THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU PEOPLE!!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

HOW COME THESE HOCKEY PLAYERS DON'T JUST PICK UP THE PUCK THINGY AND THROW IT IN THE NET?
THEY'RE NOT ALLOWED TO USE THEIR HANDS LIKE THAT.
WHY NOT?
THE HANDS ARE FOR PUNCHING OTHER HOCKEY PLAYERS!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Dog tags, e.g.
4 Staffer
8 Rips off
12 Golf prop
13 Manual reader
14 Actress Falco
15 Graceful plunge
17 Movie
18 Beef cut
19 Frog habitats
20 Brittany seaport
22 Despot
24 Carry on
25 Desert formation
29 Mature
30 Rum cakes
31 Chai, e.g.
32 Vodka-and-grapefruit juice cocktail
34 Guns the engine
35 Layered cookie
36 "Olympia" painter Edouard
37 Strait-laced
40 Clark's love
41 Count counterpart
42 Bar keeper?
46 Diminutive suffix
47 Runner's tempo
48 Fish story
49 Monopoly card
50 War god
51 CIA operative

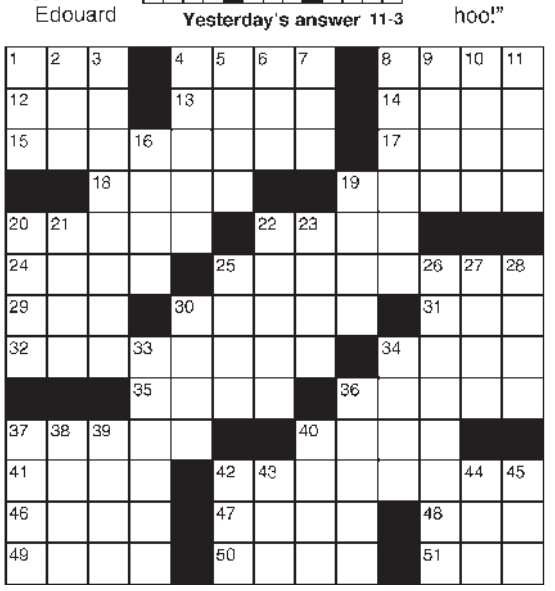
DOWN

1 TGIF part
2 Morning moisture
3 Elevation standard
4 Taxpayer's dread
5 "The doctor —"
6 Actor Patel
7 Before
8 Guinness Book datum
9 Valhalla VIP
10 Predicament
11 Beholds
16 Plane part
19 Cushions
20 Bikini tops
21 Sitar music
22 Forbidden
23 Unforeseen problem
25 "Smooth Operator" singer
26 Knives and forks, e.g.
27 Campbell of "Scream"
28 Sunrise direction
30 Polar explorer
33 Labored
34 Incursion
36 Sulks
37 Feeder filler
38 London gallery
39 Prado display
40 Lingerie trim
42 Resort
43 Scull need
44 Use a straw
45 "Yoo-hoo!"

Solution time: 25 mins.

P	E	A	S	■	S	T	P	■	S	H	A	D
E	L	M	O	■	P	O	I	■	T	A	P	E
L	I	A	M	■	R	M	N	■	E	Y	E	S
I	A	I	A	M	I	■	A	C	E	S	■	■
■	■	■	I	G	H	T	C	P	F	R	A	■
P	A	T	I	O	■	I	A	N	■	E	O	N
A	G	U	A	■	I	N	S	■	A	D	I	N
T	E	N	■	A	N	G	■	A	I	S	L	E
H	E	A	V	Y	M	E	T	A	L	■	■	■
■	■	M	O	N	A	■	R	A	M	A	D	A
N	O	E	L	■	T	A	O	■	E	D	I	T
B	O	L	T	■	E	L	L	■	N	A	N	C
C	O	T	S	■	S	A	L	■	T	M	E	N

Yesterday's answer 11-3



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Elizabeth Smart, 36; Gemma Ward, 36; Colin Kaepernick, 36; Dolph Lundgren, 66.

Happy Birthday: You'll score big this year by focusing on what's important. Leave nothing to chance or up to someone else, and you'll gain respect and the momentum you require to go above and beyond your goal. Don't let any opportunity go by the wayside. It's your turn to explore the possibilities and to utilize your skills and expertise to get ahead personally and professionally. Your numbers are 5, 16, 24, 28, 33, 42, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Let go of what isn't working and embrace what excites you. It's time to eliminate stress and focus on what makes you happy. Engage in learning new skills and fine-tuning how you present yourself to the world. Please yourself and sport a new look. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Pave the way for new beginnings by eliminating unfinished business. Reach out to those who can speed up the process, and you'll receive help discovering what you want to do next. A social event will lead to unexpected prospects. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Stick to what you do best. Don't put your health or reputation in jeopardy. Be a good listener, but refrain from sharing personal information. Your attentiveness will buy you respect and input that helps you decide your next move. Don't make promises you won't fulfill. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* An event will lead to exciting connections and conversations that stimulate you and refresh your soul. Your desire to join in on something new and exciting will manifest if you participate wholeheartedly instead of sitting on the sidelines. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Take a moment to digest everything you hear and see before engaging in a conversation that will likely end with a negative response. You owe it to yourself to concentrate on what's meaningful to you. Perfect your plans to ensure success. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Set high standards that will meet expectations. You've got what it takes to go the distance; don't dwell on the past or let insecurity hold you back. Engage in talks; you'll mesmerize someone with your vision and clarity. Love is blooming. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Stop procrastinating and start rolling. Take the initiative, finish what you start and take responsibility for your actions and happiness. Refuse to let someone else take over or make you look bad. Be proud, do what you do best and enjoy the benefits. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Networking events will take you to a higher level. You'll come face to face with people who stimulate your mind and motivate you to diversify. Creativity will enhance whatever you pursue, and discipline and drive will help you reach your objective. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Go over important papers, and update documents that are coming due. Don't rely on others to do things to your specifications. The time spent on updates will put your mind at ease and give you a better sense of what you can afford. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Put your energy where it counts. You've got what it takes to reach whatever goal you set. Dream big and use your imagination to create something that makes a difference to you and those you love. Romance, travel and new beginnings are within reach. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep your thoughts and feelings to yourself until you complete the details. Keep anyone prying at a distance until you investigate the time and cost of reaching your target. Say no to temptation, and avoid unnecessary expenses. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A joint venture looks promising. Head down memory lane and you'll remember someone or something you want to pursue. Put out feelers, create opportunities and attend events conducive to reaching something you desire. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are insightful, ambitious and knowledgeable. You are gifted and passionate.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4		9		1	7		5
1		9						8
5	2		8		3			
6		3				4		
	8						5	3
7		2	3				8	
	7					5		6
8			2				1	
	1	5						

Difficulty: ★★★★ 11/3

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	6	5	9	4	3	1	8	2
1	4	8	2	6	7	3	9	5
9	3	2	8	5	1	4	6	7
5	8	4	6	7	2	9	1	3
2	7	6	3	1	9	8	5	4
3	1	9	5	8	4	7	2	6
4	5	1	7	2	8	6	3	9
6	9	7	1	3	5	2	4	8
8	2	3	4	9	6	5	7	1

Difficulty: ★★★ 11/2

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

WEAR YOUR JERSEY TO WORK DAY Solution: 7 letters

R	E	C	C	O	S	E	U	G	A	E	L	O	G	O
G	S	A	E	L	A	R	O	M	S	L	P	V	S	F
S	A	P	R	A	E	G	S	I	A	C	O	E	T	O
M	U	S	I	G	R	P	Z	B	L	K	P	R	A	O
S	M	P	I	H	O	E	T	U	E	R	U	S	H	T
I	D	O	P	R	S	F	B	H	O	O	L	I	O	B
G	N	T	T	O	O	N	Ⓕ	M	E	W	A	Z	C	A
N	M	S	E	S	R	A	O	Ⓐ	U	M	R	E	K	L
E	R	T	A	R	U	T	S	I	Ⓝ	N	E	D	E	L
D	O	I	M	E	E	C	S	C	P	Ⓢ	Y	D	Y	R
E	F	R	T	K	H	O	M	E	H	M	U	O	E	E
K	I	I	R	A	G	L	A	N	T	O	A	O	R	Y
C	N	P	S	E	Z	I	R	P	R	N	O	H	O	A
U	U	S	S	N	A	E	J	P	E	V	O	L	C	L
T	R	I	H	S	F	F	O	Y	A	L	P	C	S	P

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Caps, Championships, Club, Contest, Custom, Fans, Football, Gear, Hats, Hockey, Home, Hood, Jeans, League, Logo, Love, Morale, Number, Oversized, Player, Playoffs, Popular, Prizes, Promote, Proud, Raglan, Region, School, Score, Shirt, Signed, Sizes, Sneakers, Soccer, Softball, Spirit, Sports, Support, Team, Theme, Tops, Tucked, Uniform, Unite, Work

Yesterday's Answer: Yuma Crossing

The NEW **TELEWORD VINTAGE COLLECTION EDITION #1** can be purchased on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

Rangers win 1st World Series title with 5-0 win over D-backs

PHOENIX (AP)—Corey Seager took a mighty hack and barely connected, sending a dribbler through an open area on the left side of the infield for his team's first hit in the seventh inning.

The Texas Rangers shortstop and World Series MVP provided plenty of power throughout a stellar October run. But it was a little good fortune that finally sparked the offense and sent the Rangers to their first title.

Considering the heartache this club went through 12 years ago in one of the all-time Fall Classic gut punches, Texas was certainly due.

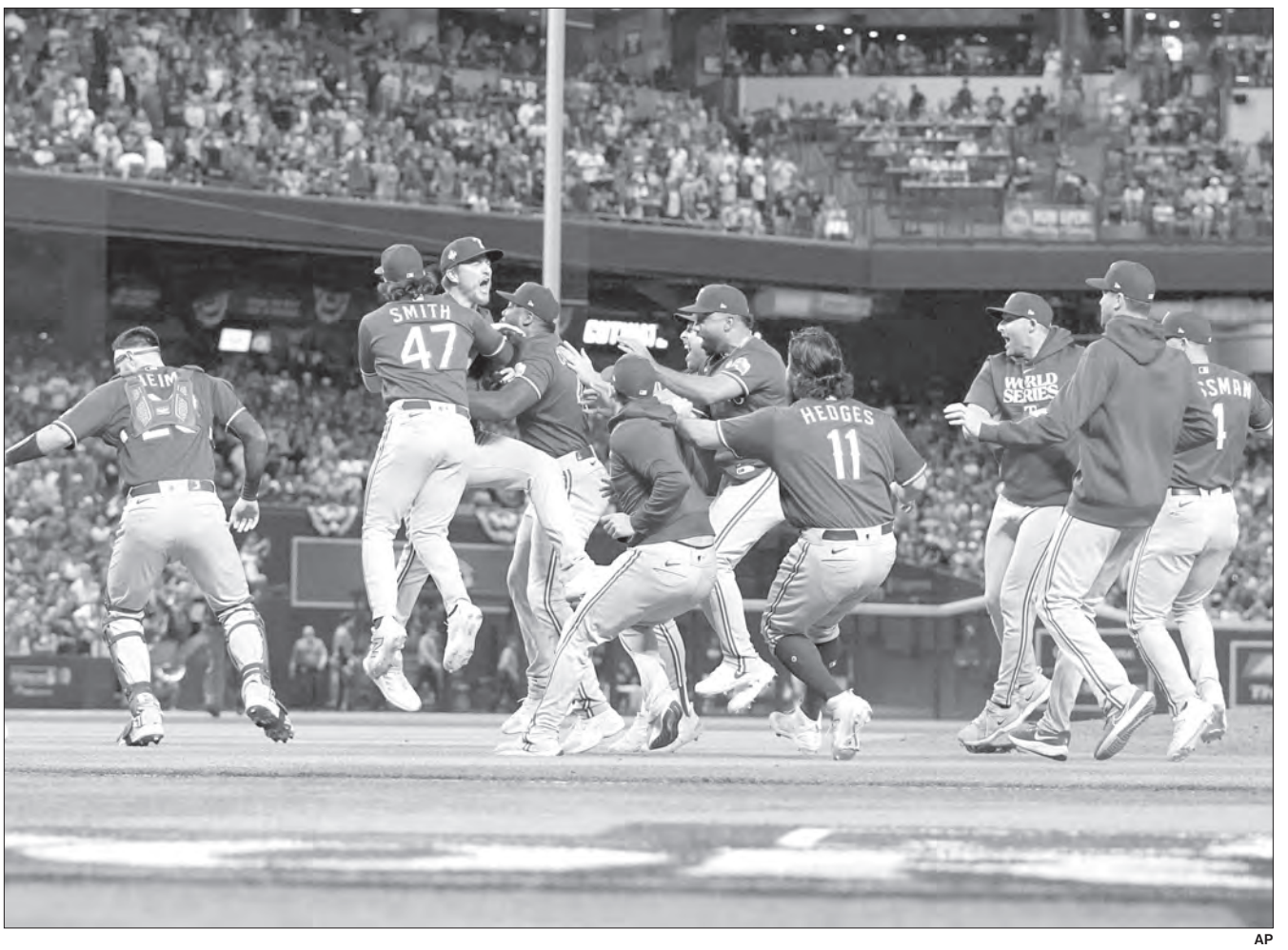
Nathan Eovaldi pitched six gritty innings, Mitch Garver broke a scoreless tie with an RBI single in the seventh and the Rangers won the first World Series championship in their 63-season franchise history by beating the Arizona Diamondbacks 5-0 in Game 5 on Wednesday night.

Marcus Semien homered in a four-run ninth and the Rangers, held hitless for six innings by Zac Gallen, finished a record 11-0 on the road this postseason after capping the Fall Classic with three straight wins in the desert.

"Everything I've ever worked for is for this moment," Semien said. "Gallen was unbelievable tonight. But we came through. Once Corey got the first hit, everybody kind of woke up. Pitching was unbelievable."

In his first season with Texas, manager Bruce Bochy won his fourth title 13 years to the day after his first, which came in 2010 when the Giants beat the Rangers. He also won rings with San Francisco in 2012 and 2014.

"I was sitting in a recliner there in Nashville, just enjoying myself," said the 68-year-old Bochy, who came out of retirement to take over the Rangers.



AP

Texas Rangers celebrate after winning Game 5 of the baseball World Series against the Arizona Diamondbacks Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023, in Phoenix. The Rangers won 5-0 to win the series 4-1.

Bochy helped exorcise some unpleasant memories for Texas fans, who watched as their team came agonizingly close to a title in 2011, needing just one strike on two occasions before losing to the St. Louis Cardinals.

One night after the Rangers built a 10-run lead by the third inning in Game 4, they finished off baseball's third all-wild card World Series by outlasting Arizona in a white-knuckle pitchers' duel.

Gallen carried a no-hitter into the seventh before giving up an opposite-field single to Seager, whose weak grounder found a hole. Rangers rookie Evan Carter—all of 21 years old—followed with a double. Garver then delivered the first run, pumping his fist as a hard grounder up the middle scored Seager.

Garver was 1 for 17 at the plate in the Series before his huge hit.

With the Rangers clinging to that 1-0 lead, Josh Jung and Nathaniel Lowe singled off Paul Sewald to start the ninth. Jung scored on Jonah Heim's single, and Lowe came all the way around from first base when center fielder Alek Thomas let the ball get past him for an error.

Two outs later, Semien's two-run homer made it 5-0. It was the 13th time Texas scored at least three runs in an inning this postseason.

Meanwhile on the mound, Eovaldi wriggled out of trouble all night before Aroldis Chapman and Josh Sborz finished it.

"I kind of joked around: I don't know how many rabbits I have in my hat," said Eovaldi, who improved to 5-0 with a 2.95 ERA this postseason. "I didn't really do a great job tonight in attacking the zone. But our defense, incredible again."

Sborz struck out four in 2 1/3 innings of one-hit relief for his first postseason save. He threw a called third strike past Ketel Marte for the final out, and jubilant Texas players rushed toward the mound to celebrate after becoming the first team to win a World Series game despite having no hits or runs through six innings.

It's the first title for the Rangers, whose history dates back to 1961 when they were the expansion Washington Senators. They moved to Texas for the 1972 season.

Now, after five stadiums, roughly two dozen managers and 10,033 games, the Rangers are finally champions.

It didn't come easy—at all.

Texas led the AL West for most of the year, but coughed up the division crown on the final day of the regular season to rival Houston. The Rangers weathered an early season-ending injury to new ace Jacob deGrom and a significant one to Seager in April as well before red-hot slugger Adolis García and three-time Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer went down in Game 3 of the World Series.

Yet still, players like trade-deadline acquisition Jordan Montgomery, replacement closer José Leclerc and backup outfielder Travis Jankowski picked up the slack throughout for these resilient Rangers, capping a quick and impressive turnaround under general manager Chris Young after Texas lost 102 games in 2021 and went 68-94 last year for its sixth consecutive losing season.

A disheartening 1-0 defeat in the regular-season finale at Seattle left the Rangers with the No. 5 seed in the American League playoffs and sent them across the country to open the postseason at Tampa Bay, part of a two-week trip that took them to four cities—two on each coast. But after sweeping the Rays and AL East champion Orioles, the AL's two winningest teams, Texas got its revenge against 2022 World Series champion Houston, winning a hard-fought AL Championship Series in which the road team won all seven games.

That propelled the Rangers to their first Fall Classic in 12 years. Once there, they became the first team to win the World Series without committing an error since the 1966 Baltimore Orioles.

Texas will celebrate with a parade in the Arlington entertainment district near its stadium on Friday.

"We've just got a group of winners," Lowe said. "When the bus driver's driving slow, we tell him, `Hey man, you know you're driving a group of winners,' so we believed it through and through. Maybe we struggled at home, but we got it done on the road, and we've got a special group."

Finally, the Rangers had to get past the young and surprising Diamondbacks, who won just 84 games during the regular season but beat the Brewers, Dodgers and Phillies in a remarkable postseason run that finally fizzled.

"I'm sorry I didn't do my job to get us there," manager Torey Lovullo said, pausing as his voice cracked with emotion. "But I will. We all will."

With some help from his defense, the bespectacled Gallen mowed down his first 14 hitters before walking Lowe.

Eovaldi wasn't as sharp, but still matched Gallen's zeros on the scoreboard despite walking five, his most in an outing since 2013.

Arizona had some juicy opportunities to score in the first five innings, but couldn't convert, going 0 for 9 with runners in scoring position.

Eovaldi made it through six, giving up four hits and striking out five on 97 pitches.

"He was a traffic cop tonight," Rangers pitching coach Mike Maddux said.

Seager, who also led the Los Angeles Dodgers to a championship in 2020, joined Hall of Famers Sandy Koufax, Bob Gibson and Reggie Jackson as the only players to win two World Series MVP awards.

Bochy is the sixth manager to win four titles, joining Casey Stengel (seven), Joe McCarthy (seven), Connie Mack (five), Walter Alston (four) and Joe Torre (four). All of them are in the Hall of Fame and when Bochy's career is over, it seems a given he'll be enshrined in Cooperstown as well.

The Rangers have been eyeing this moment since Dec. 1, 2021, when they committed more than a half-billion dollars to sign Seager, Semien and pitcher Jon Gray, who delivered a crucial three-inning relief performance in Game 3. Big spending doesn't always lead to titles—just ask the Mets, Yankees and Padres this year—but for the Rangers, it worked.

Diamondbacks' magical season ends with thud against Rangers

PHOENIX (AP)—The Arizona Diamondbacks were supposed to be contenders next year, when their young players would be more seasoned and their top prospects ready for the big leagues.

The Diamondbacks accelerated the timeline, shaking up the baseball world with an extended postseason stay.

Arizona's bid for a second World Series title was stopped by a 5-0 loss to the Texas Rangers in Game 5 on Wednesday night, but the NL pennant is certainly something the Diamondbacks can build upon.

"You want to be the last team standing. You want to be in the middle of a pile and have everybody pile on top of you. That's the best feeling in the world," Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo said. "Some have been there and we're going to continue to climb that mountain. Once we get there, we want to stay there for a long time."

Two years removed from losing 110 games, the Diamondbacks shook off a midseason swoon to reach the playoffs for the first time since 2017. They proceeded to take down Milwaukee, the Dodgers and Philadelphia on their way to their first World Series appearance since they won the 2001 championship.

The Rangers exposed Arizona's weaknesses in the Fall Classic.

Arizona managed to overcome its lack of depth in its rotation through the first three rounds of the playoffs, but it cost them in the World Series.

Zac Gallen and Merrill Kelly carried the heaviest loads, and Brandon Pfaadt was solid after being sent to the minors twice during his rookie season.

With no fourth starter, the Diamondbacks were forced into a bullpen night for Game 4 of the World Series — a tactic that didn't turn out well. The Rangers had a 10-0 lead after three innings and won 11-7 to take a a 3-1 Series lead.

Arizona's bullpen, a strength down the stretch of the regular season, also faltered in a Game 1 loss, giving up Corey Seager's two-run homer in the ninth inning and Adolis García's walk-off homer in the 11th.

Gallen struggled early in the postseason, losing the form that put him in contention for the NL Cy Young Award. The right-hander regained it in Game 6, pitching six hitless innings before giving up a run on three hits.

"I would have rather given up 1,000 runs and still win the game," Gallen said. "You get to this stage and you don't care about the personal accolades or personal accomplishments. Really, you just want to do what you can to give the team a chance to win."

Gallen did, but it wasn't enough as some of Arizona's biggest bats during the regular season went quiet in the Fall Classic.

Lakers snap 11-game losing streak against Clippers, 130-125

LOS ANGELES (AP)—LeBron James had 35 points and 11 rebounds, Austin Reaves scored seven of his 15 points in overtime and the Los Angeles Lakers snapped an 11-game losing streak against the Los Angeles Clippers with a 130-125 victory Wednesday night.

D'Angelo Russell scored 27 points and Anthony Davis had 27 points and 10 rebounds for the short-handed Lakers, who beat their local rivals for the first time since July 2020 in the Florida bubble. The 17-time NBA champion Lakers hadn't beaten the Clippers on the Lakers' home court at their shared arena since Christmas 2016, losing 11 in a row.

With James Harden watching in street clothes on the Clippers' bench after his trade from Philadelphia, Kawhi Leonard scored 38 points in the Clippers' second loss of the young season. Paul George scored 20 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter, including eight points in the final minute, before fouling out 30 seconds into overtime.

Although the Lakers used just eight players due to five significant injury absences, they rallied from an early 19-point deficit before blowing an eight-point lead in the final 90 seconds of regulation.

George, who had six 3-pointers, hit three free throws with 17 seconds left to tie it. Russell had an open shot at the buzzer, but missed.

AP

Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James, right, shoots as Los Angeles Clippers guard Norman Powell defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023, in Los Angeles.

CELTICS 155, PACERS 104

BOSTON (AP)—Jayson Tatum had 30 points and 12 rebounds in less than three quarters and Boston used a blistering start to rout Indiana and remain unbeaten.

The 155 points was the second-most in a regular-season game in franchise history.

One game after blowing out the Wizards in Washington, the Celtics returned home and beat the Pacers even worse, opening a 10-point lead in the first three minutes, making it 20 in the second quarter, 30 in the third and 53 in the fourth.

Derrick White had 18 points and Jaylen Brown had 16 before the Boston starters went to the bench late in the third quarter, when the Celtics opened a 38-point lead. Sam Hauser scored 17 points and Payton Pritchard had 15 in extensive minutes off the bench. T.J. McConnell scored 18 points for the Pacers.

WARRIORS 102, KINGS 101

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Klay Thompson hit a 17-footer with less than a second remaining and Golden State held off Sacramento.

Domantas Sabonis put the Kings ahead moments earlier on a jumper with 16 seconds to play after Stephen Curry's layup just before in a wild final minute.

Curry scored with 33 seconds left following a 24-second violation by Sacramento that gave Golden State the ball for another chance with 38.4 seconds left trailing 99-98.

Curry scored 21 points and added four 3-pointers to take his NBA-leading total to 28 on a night the Kings missed leading scorer De'Aaron Fox because of a sprained right ankle suffered Sunday against the Lakers.

Sabonis had 23 points, 11 rebounds and six assists.

MAVERICKS 114, BULLS 105

DALLAS (AP)—Grant Williams tied career highs with 25 points and seven 3-pointers and Dallas beat Chicago to improve to 4-0 for the first time since 2004-05.

Tim Hardaway Jr. added 24 points and seven 3-pointers for Dallas. The Mavericks led 99-98 with 4:08 left and put it away with 10-2 run.

Luka Doncic, who went into play leading the NBA with a 39-point average, had 18 points and 10 rebounds. Doncic was 1 for 8 behind the arc. Kyrie Irving missed his second consecutive game because of a sprained left left.

Zach LaVine scored 22 points for Chicago. Nikola Vucevic had 21 points and a season-high 20 rebounds.

TIMBERWOLVES 110, NUGGETS 89

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Anthony Edwards scored 24 points and Minnesota handed defending NBA champion Denver its loss in five games this season in the first rematch of their first-round playoff series from last spring.

Karl-Anthony Towns added 21 points and eight rebounds and Mike Conley had 17 points on 7-for-9 shooting. The Timberwolves made 26 for 27 free throws.

Nikola Jokic had 25 points and 10 rebounds for Denver.

NETS 109, HEAT 105

MIAMI (AP)—Mikal Bridges scored 21 points, Lonnie Walker IV and Armoni Brooks each added 17 and Brooklyn overcame a 15-point second-half deficit to beat Miami.

Dorian Finney-Smith scored all 15 of his points in the second half for Brooklyn, and Cam Thomas had 13 for the Nets.

Tyler Herro scored 30 points for Miami, which has dropped four straight to fall to 1-4—its worst five-game start since opening 0-5 in the 2007-08 season.

RAPTORS 130, BUCKS 111

TORONTO (AP)—Dennis Schroder had season highs of 24 points and 11 assists, and Toronto beat Milwaukee to snap a three-game losing streak.

Pascal Siakam added 26 points, and Scottie Barnes scored 21 points and matched his season best with 12 rebounds. Toronto's biggest lead with 27 points.

Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 16 points and Damian Lillard had 15 for the Bucks. Antetokounmpo shot 5 for 11, and Lillard was 4 for 9.

TRAIL BLAZERS 110, PISTONS 101

DETROIT (AP)—Shaedon Sharpe scored 26 of his 29 points in the second half and Portland overcame an 18-point deficit to beat Detroit.

Former Piston Jeremi Grant added 24 points for the Trail Blazers, and Deandre Ayton had 16 points, 11 rebounds five steals and a block in his first game against Pistons coach Monty Williams since they both left the Phoenix Suns.

Cade Cunningham had 30 points for Detroit, but missed 16 of 27 shots and turned the ball over six times. The Pistons shot 37.8% in a 42-point second half.

HAWKS 130, WIZARDS 121

ATLANTA (AP)—Dejounte Murray had 24 points and Atlanta beat Washington for its third straight win.

Two days after matching his career high with 41 points against Minnesota, Murray shot 10 for 15 from the field, including 3 for 5 from 3-point range. Trae Young added 23 points and 10 assists.

Kyle Kuzma led Washington with 25 points.

JAZZ 133, GRIZZLIES 109

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Collin Sexton scored 23 points and Lauri Markkanen had 19 points and 11 rebounds to power Utah past reeling Memphis.

Desmond Bane scored 21 points and Jaren Jackson Jr. added 19 for winless Memphis (0-5).

CAVALIERS 95, KNICKS 89

NEW YORK (AP)—Donovan Mitchell scored 30 points and Cleveland beat New York to snap a three-game skid.

Caris LeVert added 19 points and Eric Mobley had 14.

Jalen Brunson led New York with 24 points.

PELICANS 110, THUNDER 106

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—CJ McCollum had 29 points and 11 rebounds and New Orleans overcame a 22-point deficit to beat Oklahoma City.

Zion Williamson added 20 points, nine rebounds and eight assists.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 20 points for Oklahoma City.

ROCKETS 128 HORNETS 119

HOUSTON (AP)—Jalen Green scored 23 points, Fred VanVleet added 22 points and 11 assists and Houston beat Charlotte for its first victory of the season.

P.J. Washington scored 23 points for Charlotte.

Clippers' top brass says Harden will make sacrifices necessary to contend for a title

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Although James Harden is a superstar joining a team already loaded with stars, the Los Angeles Clippers' top brass thinks he will thrive in their galaxy.

Clippers coach Tyronn Lue said Wednesday he isn't sure when Harden will make his debut following the blockbuster trade that brought the 10-time All-Star and 2018 NBA MVP home to Los Angeles from the Philadelphia 76ers.

But Lue believes that when Harden plays alongside Kawhi Leonard, Paul George and Russell Westbrook this season, all four will make the adjustments necessary to turn the Clippers into a prime contender for Harden's first NBA title.

"Sacrifice is going to be the biggest thing," Lue said. "Four guys from LA, and four guys that have done a lot in their careers. So they understand, and they've talked about just winning a championship. That's all we're focused on. It's going to take a lot of sacrifice, whether it's shots, whether it's minutes. They're willing to do that."

The Clippers gave up four players and a portion of their long-term draft position to add Harden and P.J. Tucker, shaking the foundation of their team just four games into the season. To Lawrence Frank and owner Steve Ballmer, the potential hazards of fielding a four-superstar lineup were far outweighed by the potential for greatness.

Frank, the Clippers' president of basketball operations, called Harden "a ceiling-raiser."

"James Harden has an elite skill set, and all he cares about is one thing: He wants to win a championship for the LA Clippers," Frank added. "He wants to be part of something bigger than himself. ... These (four) guys have all the individual accomplishments. They've made plenty of money. This is about one goal."

While Harden badly wanted to play in his native Los Angeles after his relationship with the Sixers disintegrated, the Clippers are determined to escape the second-tier contender purgatory in which they've had 12 consecutive winning seasons and 10 playoff berths, yet just one conference finals appearance.

Harden can relate: He has made the playoffs in every season of his 14-year career, but has never won a ring.

Harden, who isn't yet in game shape after his protracted divorce in Philly, arrived in Los Angeles on Tuesday in time to watch the Clippers beat the Orlando Magic. Harden, Tucker and Lue's staff spent Wednesday morning going over the playbook for the Clippers, who got off to a 3-1 start with Leonard, George and Westbrook all looking healthy and sharp.

The Clippers faced the Lakers on Wednesday night before getting four consecutive days off between games. Lue plans to use that fortunate schedule quirk as a mini-training camp to figure out the rotations and preferences necessary for this new core to thrive.

"The good thing about the trade is we're four games in, not 60 like last year" when Westbrook joined the team, Lue said. "We're going to have a lot of time. It's going to be a process. We understand that. We're excited about the journey ahead, but these four days are going to be really good for us. Came at a perfect time just to try to get James and P.J. up to speed."

While Harden's debut won't happen until next week at the earliest, Tucker was available to play Wednesday night against the Lakers, Lue said. Tucker has been playing for the Sixers while Harden left and returned in his contentious, extended breakup with the franchise.

Bob Knight, Indiana's combustible coaching giant, dies at age 83

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP)—Bob Knight, the brilliant and combustible coach who won three NCAA titles at Indiana and for years was the scowling face of college basketball, has died. He was 83.

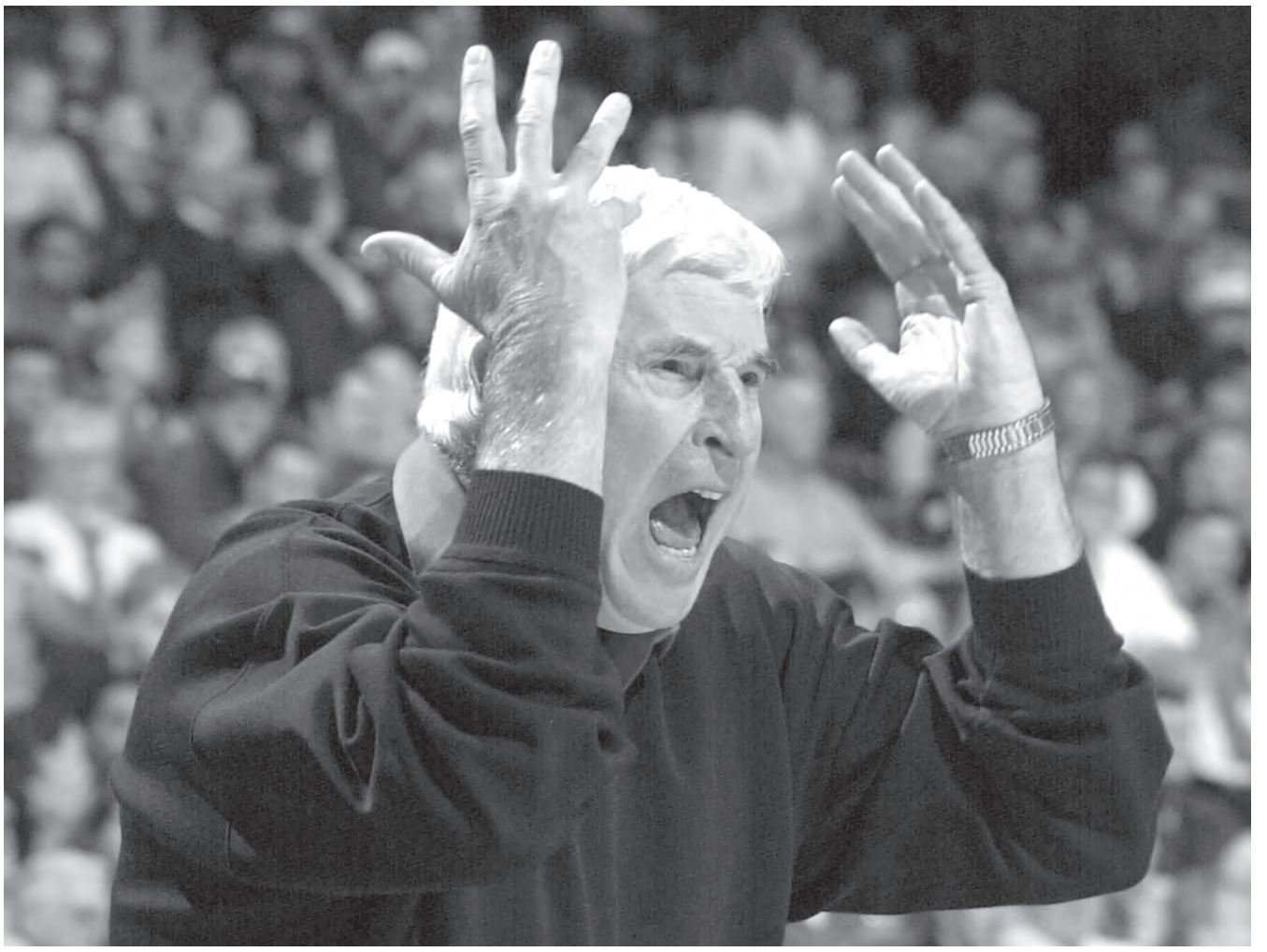
Knight's family made the announcement on social media on Wednesday night. He was hospitalized with an illness in April and had been in poor health for several years.

"It is with heavy hearts that we share that Coach Bob Knight passed away at his home in Bloomington surrounded by his family," the statement said. "We are grateful for all the thoughts and prayers, and appreciate the continued respect for our privacy as Coach requested a private family gathering, which is being honored."

Knight was among the winningest and most controversial coaches in the sport, finishing his career with 902 victories in 42 seasons at Army, Indiana and Texas Tech while mentoring some of America's best coaches.. He also coached the U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal in 1984.

The Hall of Famer cared little what others thought of him, choosing Frank Sinatra's "My Way" to celebrate his 880th win in 2007, then the record for a Division I men's coach.

He was nicknamed "The General" and his trademark temper also cost him his job at Indiana in 2000. He once hit a police officer in Puerto Rico, threw a chair across the court and was accused of wrapping his hands around a player's neck.



AP

Texas Tech coach Bob Knight yells from the sideline during the first half of the team's NCAA college basketball game against Houston on Dec. 14, 2001, in Houston.

Critics fumed relentlessly about his conduct, but his defenders were legion. There was this side of Knight as well: He took pride in his players' high graduation rates, and during a rule-breaking era he never was accused of a major NCAA violation.

At Indiana, he insisted his base salary not exceed that of other professors. At Texas Tech, he sometimes gave back his salary because he didn't think he earned it.

Knight expected players to exceed expectations on the court and in the classroom. He abided by NCAA rules even when he disagreed with them, never backed down from a dustup and promised to take his old-school principles to the grave.

While he was beloved by many of his players, his disposition and theatrics sometimes overshadowed his formidable record, tactical genius, innovation and dedication to and the game, leaving behind a singular resume..

"He changed basketball in this state, the way you compete, the way you win," Steve Alford, the leader of Knight's last national championship team in 1987, once said. "It started in Indiana, but he really changed college basketball. You look at the motion offense and people everywhere used it."

Long esteemed for his strategy and often questioned for his methods, Knight reveled in constructing his best teams with overachievers. As a hard-to-please motivator, he clung to iron principles, and at 6-foot-5 was an intimidating presence for anyone who dared cross him.

When Knight retired in 2008, he left with four national championships (one as a player at Ohio State) and as the Division I men's record-holder in wins. He coached everyone from Mike Krzyzewski to Isiah Thomas to Michael Jordan. His coaching tree included Krzyzewski, who broke Knight's wins record; Alford; Lawrence Frank, Keith Smart, Randy Wittman and Mike Woodson, Indiana's current coach, among others.

BARNES

From page 24

Cotelesse, Jerald Lujan, Herman Ada, Frank Arriola, Jeff Breeding, Russell Maratita, Richard Rosete, Roland San Nicolas, Jeff Chong, and Roland Duenas.

Barnes said he always felt blessed to have been at the right place at the right time and know what to do, how to do it, and when to do it.

"Not easy footpaths to follow but I was fearless along the way. I remember the apathy toward the very early starting time of the first Saipan Marathon. It started at 4:30am next to the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Many of the local runners whined and complained about the early start but I was steadfast on the time as I knew the heat and humidity would take over the race at about halfway through the 26 miles of the marathon. And you know what? After the marathon was finished every local runner made a point of approaching me and thanking me for starting the race so early. It left a very warm spot in my heart."

Asked who is he dedicating his latest hall induction to, Barnes was generous in heaping praise to everyone who had been part of his journey.

"I'm dedicating this achievement to all those individuals who helped along the way. There are way too many to personally mention but they know who they are. Also, to my wife Sol and my daughter and two sons. I would be virtually nothing without help and assistance along my sports journeys."

During his University of Guam Tritons Hall of Fame Class of 2023 induction, the soft-spoken Barnes was asked a favor he couldn't refuse by UOG officials.

"I have been asked to donate a copy of my "Sport Legends of Micronesia" so it can be put in a glass encased frame and hang in the memorabilia room. I am donating my very own personal copy, as that is the only copy left."

UNDEFEATED

From page 24

three minutes left and the favor switched to Checkpoint's side as Keith Santos made both free throws to lead by 2 points, 56-58. It was still anybody's game as their pace sped up while seconds ticked by just as fast.

The Easy Riders were stumped while Checkpoint's lead grew, 58-54, from a follow-up basket by Keith and their man-to-man defense. But Easy Riders weren't to be counted out as with less than a minute left, Diwa found opportunities to get them within 1 point, 57-58, after a fast-break layup and free throws.

Easy Riders' Andrew Ashburn then took back the lead with a jumper, 61-58, then was fouled right after and gave them a 4-point lead.

When it seemed like there was no more fight left for Checkpoint—with less than 10 seconds left—Coby set up for a 3-pointer and was fouled. He made two in and missed the last shot to get within 2 points of the Easy Riders, but time was just not on their side as it expired before they could tie up the game.

Checkpoint's momentum and drive were unmatched in the first quarter as they came out guns blazing from within the paint and outside the perimeter from sharpshooting duo of Coby and Keith Santos. They led the Easy Riders, 22-17, by the end of the first quarter.

However, Easy Riders then came bounding back in the second and third quarter and had a little breathing room with a 59-39 lead that came crashing down at the end of the fourth.

Diwa scooped up 16 markers, while Ashburn collected 10. For Checkpoint, Coby sank 21, while Keith was right behind with 18.

Earlier in the night, The Game-Eats Easy eliminated CK Saints from contention, 57-55, and now awaits their last semis game against Checkpoint for the last finals spot.

Easy Riders 62 – Diwa 16, Ashburn 10, Camacho 9, Padayao 8, Ferrer 6, Gaviola 5, De Guzman 3, Velasco 3, Domine 2.

Checkpoint 60 – C. Santos 21, K. Santos 18, Castro 6, Aranda 4, Quan 3, Kim 3, Dela Cruz 2, Sablan 2, Camacho 1.

Scoring by quarters: 17-22, 34-29, 51-39, 62-60.

NMI

From page 24

in bodybuilding in the first place as growing up, I was never into sports. Now, here I am and ready to take on every opportunity I could get to improve myself, my health, and represent our islands," said Tudela.

The winner of the Dee Clayton Classic tournament in 2020 and 2022 added that since this will be her first competition outside the NMI and she has no clue about her competitors, she does not feel much pressure and is focused on her own performance on the bodybuilding stage.

"I will not compare myself to others as I might lose focus. I will concentrate on doing the extra work in certain areas, such as my back, core, and glutes," the Northern Marianas College student added.

Laxa, who finished second in the men's physique short category of the Dee Clayton Classic last year in his debut in bodybuilding, has the same approach to his first off-island competition.

"There will be competitors bigger than me in the Pacific Games, but I won't let them intimidate or discourage a newcomer like me. My concentration is to get better each training day and work on my conditioning to be in good shape come the competition time," said Laxa.

Northern Marianas Bodybuilding and Physique Federation president Dee Clayton, meanwhile, said that though they are only sending two representatives to the Solomon Islands, she is pleased that Team Marianas gets to be part of the return of the bodybuilding competition in the Pacific Games.

"Bodybuilding does not make it to Pacific Games on a regular basis. We did not have it 2019 in Samoa, so I am very happy that we have it this year and we have the opportunity to participate—give our athletes a chance to compete against some of the best in our region," said Clayton, who herself represented the NMI in the Pacific Games years ago.

The bodybuilding head also hopes that having NMI representatives go to off-island tournaments will drum up interest in the sport and encourage more people to get involved in their program.

"Right now, we have several students in bodybuilding. Some of them were supposed to join the team in Solomons, but there is an age requirement (at least 21 years old). However, I look forward to seeing them stay in the program to some day have the opportunity to represent the NMI in bigger stage," Clayton said.

Laxa and Tudela are part of the more than 100 NMI athletes and officials participating in the 2023 Pacific Games that will run from Nov. 19 to Dec. 2, 2023. Team Marianas' participation in this year's Pacific Games is supported by the Joeten Daidai Foundation, Triple J, Crowne Plaza Resort, IT&E, IP&E, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Mobil, Tan Holdings, and McDonald's. ***(PR)***

Latte FC teams oust foes in TakeCare soccer

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Latte FC boys ousted their foes in the continuation of the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2023 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Saturday.

The 14U boys team had a field day as they won a lopsided 19-1 match over Shirley's FC, while the 17U boys team won over MP United FC, 3-1.

Shirley's drew first blood in the seventh minute from Charles Molina's cleats, but that was all they wrote for the rest of the match.

Latte's strikers went straight to work as they put up eight goals in the first half, while they scored 11 in the second. Shirley's goalie was clobbered with back-to-back goals from Kian Estolas, Emerson Brillo, and Julio Monserrat—just two minutes apart from each other.

NMIFA

Latte FC's 17U player Monico Claridades extends for a kick during their game against MP United FC in the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2023 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Saturday.

Estolas then completed the hat-trick in the 21st minute, followed by another completed hat-trick from Brillo—plus two more goals from him at the end of the 31st minute. Brillo went on to score five more goals for a total of 11 out of the team's 19 goals.

Estolas made six goals in total, while Edward Becina snuck one goal in the 32nd minute.

Latte's Mark Patubo had a clear view of the pitch and maneuvered past MP United defenders with ease—scoring two goals by the end of the first half.

MP United could not seem to find their way into Latte territory until the 63rd minute when Sean Park nipped the net for their first goal. It would be their only goal of the game as their offense was shut down, while Latte's Anthony Bergancia added another goal in the 71st minute.

In other results in the 12U boys division, Kanoa trounced Paire, 6-1; Matansa beat Southern United FC, 3-1; SUFC defeated Latte, 5-1 in the 14U girls division; Kanoa outscored Kanoa 2, 8-2; Paire and Shirley's ended in a 2-2 draw; Kanoa blanked Matansa in the 14U boys division; MP United silenced Kanoa 2, 8-0; SUFC slipped past MP United, 3-2 in the 17U girls division; Paire and Shirley's deadlocked at 4-4; and Kanoa triumphed over Matansa, 5-2 in the 17U boys division.

PSS schools foes in R&J caging

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Team PSS came out of the gutter and schooled their last two foes for a winning 5-3 record in the Inaugural R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2023 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Their most recent conquest was CPA, who they defeated, 97-67, on Wednesday, and handed MarPac their first loss of the season last Oct. 24, 82-74.

In their game against CPA, PSS started to pull away from them in the third quarter after a close first half.

CPA got within 4 points, 39-43, at the end of the second quarter, but thanks to PSS' more accurate jumpers and bank shots, along with the outside of 3-point man Preston Basa, PSS established their lead in the third quarter and enforced tight-defensive pressure on CPA's offense.

CPA mainstay Donovan Brennan tried to carry his team with consecutive 3-pointers of his own, but without much help from the rest of his teammates, fell short in the end.

They could not recover from the mounting lead that PSS created from the beginning of the third quarter with great passes and assists—as well as back-to-back field goals by Melvin Sakisat and Mii Tekopua toward the end of the fourth quarter.

In the end, Sakisat was a ball magnet with 28 points, followed by Mii Tekopua's 18 markers, and Basa's 11 points. Brennan came away with 36 points, while David Camacho made 15.

In other results that night, Federals won a close one over Docomo, 58-52. On Tuesday, CHCC defeated CUC, 95-73; and MarPac slipped past Joeten, 82-81; on Monday, Office of the Governor edged CPA, 83-77; and Priority Care overpowered Federals, 89-69.

JONATHAN SUGATAN

PSS' Preston Basa, right, sets up the play during one of their games in the Inaugural R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2023 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

So far in the standings as of Wednesday, Nov. 1, MarPac leads the pack with an 8-1 record; Joeten is right behind at 7-2; Office of the Governor, Priority Care, and PSS are at 5-3 each; Federals have a 3-5 record; CPA is at 3-6; Docomo and CHCC are both 2-6; and CUC have won one and lost seven.

PSS 97 – Sakisat 28, Tekopua 18, Basa 11, Palacios 9, Valencia 8, Mendez 6, Ferrari 6, Winkfield 5, Villagomez 4, Cabrera 2.

CPA 76 – Brennan 36, Camacho 15, Mancao 8, Hambros 6, Cepeda 5, Diaz 2, Hofschneider 2, Robert 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-22, 43-39, 72-62, 97-76.

Kwon, Lee are tops seeds in TanHoldings Classic

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

David Kwon and Anne Lee top-bill the 12th TanHoldings Tennis Classic set to unfold this weekend at the American Memorial Park and Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan tennis courts.

The 16-year-old Kwon is the No. 1 seed in the boy 18 with June Yu on the other end of the draw at No. 2.

Lee, who is only 12 years old, will battle older netters as the top seed in the girls 18 with Serin Chung the second seed.

In the boys 16, Siwoo Lee holds the pole position with June Yu the second seed.

In the girls 16 doubles, Vivian Chung and Jenna Pascual is the doubles team to beat, followed by second seeds Stella Choi and Emma Degawa Lang.

Ryan Jeongwoo Choi is the top seed in the boys 14 with Ian Chae the second seed, while Stella Choi and Vivian Chung are 1-2 in the girls 14.

Jinho Park is the prohibitive favorite in the boys 12 with Minjoon "Michael" Jeon next in the totem pole.

In the boys 12 doubles, Park and Jeon hold the No. 1 seed with brothers Jackson and Cooper Koning-Fong the second seeds.

The 12th TanHoldings Classic would like to thank the following sponsors of the tournament: Grand Slam Sponsors Quality Distributor of Guam, Mobil Oil Marianas, ASC Trust, and TSL Foundation; Match Point Sponsors IT&E, D&Q, and Shirley's Guam, Ace Sponsors Alliance Metal Specialties and IShop; Advantage Sponsors Take Care and Tsang Brothers, and in-kind sponsors McDonalds Saipan and Guam, All-Star dba Boarderline Athlete's Foot, and Marpac.

Lee

Kwon

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Sports

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Barnes inducted into UOG Hall of Fame

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

Dr. Kurt Barnes has now been inducted into not one but two halls of fame—a testament to the former Peace. Corp. volunteer's lasting contributions to propagating sports in the Marianas.

The 83-year-old was inducted into the University of Guam Tritons Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2023 last week and flew to the U.S. territory from his home in Elk Grove, California to personally accept the honor.

Barnes is a former adjunct professor at UOG, serving as an extension instructor to Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. He is also best known for writing the book, "Sport Legends of Micronesia (1966-2012)" and has a long history of administrating sports programs in the CNMI, to include being the president of Northern Marianas Athletics, vice president of the Northern Marianas Sports Association, and coach of the NMI gold-medal-winning women's volleyball team in the 1969 Micronesian Games (then called Micronesian Olympics).

Barnes is also among the early inductees into the NMI Sports Hall of Fame.

"I am humbled by this induction but honored at the same time. Some high-profile sports personalities are enshrined in UOG's Sports Hall of Fame. Terry Stotts, the former basketball coach of the Portland Trailblazers, for one. He played basketball at UOG in his younger days," he said.

Joining Barnes, who was inducted as administrator/sports historian, in the University of Guam Tritons Hall of Fame Class of 2023 are Randall V. Wiegand (administrator), Roland San Nicolas (football), Glory Fritz-Beaty (women's tennis), coach Gerald Barnes (basketball coach/Rival), and the 1994 champions of the Miller Football League, namely Kevin Okiyama, Tony Pasoadas, Richard

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UOG
Longtime CNMI educator Dr. Kurt Barnes was inducted into the University of Guam Tritons Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2023 last week. He is shown here proudly showing his Hall of Fame crystal plaque.

Undefeated Easy Riders clinch 1st open finals spot

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Undefeated Easy Riders have a flair for the dramatic as they fought tooth-and-nail against erstwhile undefeated Checkpoint, 62-60, to clinch the first open division finals spot of the Inaugural SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2023 last Wednesday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Checkpoint came back in the last five minutes from a once imposing 11-point deficit, but came up short as Easy Rider's Cris Diwa made sure his drives sunk in to get the lead and keep it—despite a last ditch effort from Checkpoint's Coby Santos to tie up the game.

It was tied, 54-54, with less than

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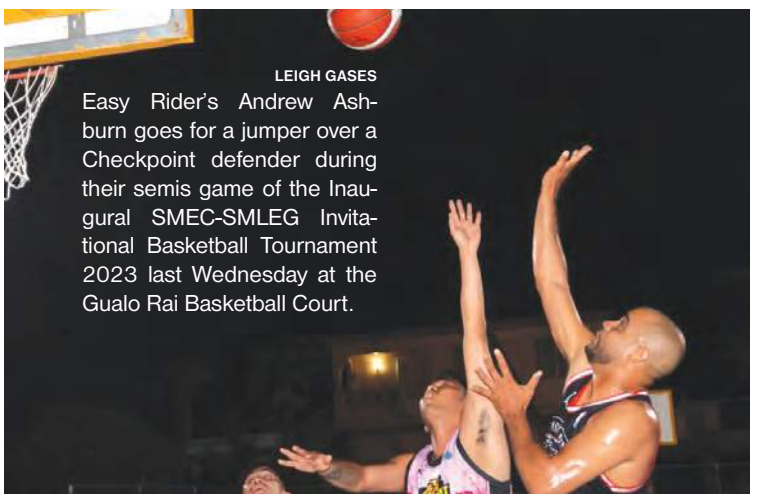

LEIGH GASES
Easy Rider's Andrew Ashburn goes for a jumper over a Checkpoint defender during their semis game of the Inaugural SMEC-SMLEG Invitational Basketball Tournament 2023 last Wednesday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

NMI bodybuilders up for competition in bigger stage

Team Marianas' representatives in the bodybuilding event, Christina Tudela and Davy Laxa, will be making their debuts in the 2023 Pacific Games and are ready for the challenge that comes with competing in a bigger stage.

Tudela will be the NMI's entry in the women's model physique category in the bodybuilding competition that will take place on Nov. 27 at the Maranatha Hall in Honiara, the Solomon Islands. Laxa, on the other hand, is competing in the men's bantamweight class. Both athletes are relative newcomers in the sport with Tudela having her first bodybuilding tournament in 2020 and Laxa just last year.

"This is my first time to compete off-island and in an even bigger tournament and I take this as a challenge. I never expected myself to get involved

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